

## 1: A History of the Middle East by Peter Mansfield | [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com)

*A Brief History of the Middle East [Christopher Catherwood] on [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. For over a millennium, the Islamic empires were ahead of the West in learning, technology, and medicine.*

Expansion during the Umayyad Caliphate , “ While the Byzantine Roman and Sassanid Persian empires were both weakened by warfare “ , a new power in the form of Islam grew in the Middle East. In a series of rapid Muslim conquests , Arab armies , led by the Caliphs and skilled military commanders such as Khalid ibn al-Walid , swept through most of the Middle East, taking more than half of Byzantine territory and completely engulfing the Persian lands. In Anatolia , they were stopped in the Siege of Constantinople “18 by the Byzantines, who were helped by the Bulgarians. The Byzantine provinces of Roman Syria , North Africa , and Sicily, however, could not mount such a resistance, and the Muslim conquerors swept through those regions. At the far west, they crossed the sea taking Visigothic Hispania before being halted in southern France in the Battle of Tours by the Franks. At its greatest extent, the Arab Empire was the first empire to control the entire Middle East, as well three-quarters of the Mediterranean region , the only other empire besides the Roman Empire to control most of the Mediterranean Sea. The Seljuq Empire would also later dominate the region. Between and , the Emirate of Sicily was one of the major centres of Islamic culture in the Mediterranean. After its conquest by the Normans the island developed its own distinct culture with the fusion of Arab, Western, and Byzantine influences. Palermo remained a leading artistic and commercial centre of the Mediterranean well into the Middle Ages. Motivated by religion and conquest, the kings of Europe launched a number of Crusades to try to roll back Muslim power and retake the Holy Land. The Crusades were unsuccessful but were far more effective in weakening the already tottering Byzantine Empire. They also rearranged the balance of power in the Muslim world as Egypt once again emerged as a major power. Islamic culture and science[ edit ] Main articles: Religion always played a prevalent role in Middle Eastern culture, affecting learning, architecture, and the ebb and flow of cultures. When Muhammad introduced Islam, it jump-started Middle Eastern culture, inspiring achievements in architecture , the revival of old advances in science and technology, and the formation of a distinct way of life. Islam also created the need for spectacularly built mosques which created a distinct form of architecture. Islam unified the Middle East and helped the empires there to remain stable. This created a mix of cultures, especially in Africa, and the mawali demographic. Although the mawali would experience discrimination from the Umayyad, they would gain widespread acceptance from the Abbasids and it was because of this that allowed for mass conversions in foreign areas. Muslims saved and spread Greek advances in medicine , algebra , geometry , astronomy , anatomy , and ethics that would later find its way back to Western Europe. The works of Aristotle , Galen , Hippocrates , Ptolemy , and Euclid were saved and distributed throughout the empire and eventually into Europe in this manner. Muslim scholars also discovered the Hindu-Arabic numeral system in their conquests of south Asia. The use of this system in Muslim trade and political institutions allowed for the eventual popularization of it around the world; this number system would be critical to the Scientific revolution in Europe. Muslim intellectuals would become experts in chemistry , optics , and mapmaking during the Abbasid Caliphate. In the arts, Abbasid architecture expanded upon Umayyad architecture , with larger and more extravagant mosques. Persian literature grew based on ethical values. Astronomy was stressed in art. Much of this learning would find its way to the West. This was especially true during the crusades, as warriors would bring back Muslim treasures, weapons, and medicinal methods. Crusades , History of the Levant , Mongol conquests , and History of Jerusalem The dominance of the Arabs came to a sudden end in the mid 11th century with the arrival of the Seljuq Turks , migrating south from the Turkic homelands in Central Asia. Egypt held out under the Fatimid caliphs until , when it too fell to the Turks. Despite massive territorial losses in the 7th century, the Christian Byzantine Empire continued to be a potent military and economic force in the Mediterranean, preventing Arab expansion into much of Europe. The Seljuks ruled most of the Middle East region for the next years, but their empire soon broke up into a number of smaller sultanates. Christian

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST pdf

Western Europe staged a remarkable economic and demographic recovery in the 11th century since its nadir in the 7th century. The fragmentation of the Middle East allowed joined forces, mainly from England, France, and the emerging Holy Roman Empire, to enter the region. In the knights of the First Crusade captured Jerusalem and founded the Kingdom of Jerusalem, which survived until 1099, when Saladin retook the city. Smaller crusader fiefdoms survived until 1187. His absence resulted in the first defeat of the Mongols by the Mamluk Egyptians during the Battle of Ain Jalut in 1260. Additionally, societal clashing occurred between traditionalists who wished to retain their nomadic culture and Mongols moving towards sedentary agriculture. All of this led to the fragmentation of the empire in 1258. The Mongols eventually retreated in 1260, but the chaos that ensued throughout the empire deposed the Seljuq Turks. In 1517, the region was further plagued by the Turko-Mongol, Timur, and his ferocious raids. By then, another group of Turks had arisen as well, the Ottomans. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.

### 2: The Middle East conflict – a brief background – Global Issues

*Home to the Cradle of Civilization, the Middle East (usually interchangeable with the Near East) has seen many of the world's oldest cultures and www.enganchecubano.com history started from the earliest human settlements, continuing through several major pre- and post-Islamic Empires through to the nation-states of the Middle East today.*

Visit Website Damascus eventually became the capital of the Islamic world, but was replaced by Baghdad in Iraq around A. This change led to economic decline in Syria, and for the next several centuries, the region became unstable and was ruled by various groups. In , the Ottoman Empire conquered Syria and remained in power until British and Arab troops captured Damascus and Aleppo in , and the French took control of modern-day Syria and Lebanon in . These arrangements put an end to roughly years of Ottoman rule in the region. The French reign led to uprisings and revolts among the people in Syria. In , France and Syria negotiated a treaty of independence, which allowed Syria to remain independent but gave France military and economic power. Syria joined with Egypt and became the United Arab Republic in , but the union split a few short years later in . The s brought more military coups, revolts and riots. In , the Arab Socialist Baath Party, which was active throughout the Middle East since the late s, seized power of Syria in a coup known as the Baath Revolution. Conflict over this coveted area continued for years and is still ongoing. He remained in power as president for 30 years, until his death in . Hafez al-Assad was part of the Islam Alawite, which is a minority Shiite sect. During his presidency, Hafez was credited with strengthening the Syrian military with the help of the Soviets. Syria and Egypt went to war with Israel in . Shortly after this conflict, Syria also got involved in the civil war in Lebanon, where it has maintained a military presence ever since. In , the Muslim Brotherhood organized a rebellion against the Assad regime in the city of Hama, and Assad responded by arresting, torturing and executing political rebels. Estimates vary, but many experts believe the retaliation took the lives of about 20, civilians. The same year, Israel invaded Lebanon and attacked the Syrian army stationed there. But by , Israel and Lebanon announced that the hostility between the two countries was over. Toward the end of his life, Hafez attempted to make more peaceful relations with Israel and Iraq. After Bashar took power, the constitution was amended to reduce the minimum age of the president from 40 to . At the start of his presidency, Bashar al-Assad released political prisoners, and Syrians were hopeful that their new leader would grant more freedoms and impose less oppression than his father. However, within a year, Bashar used threats and arrests to stop pro-reform activism. The Syrian government was also accused of being involved in the assassination of Rafic Hariri, the Lebanese prime minister, in . After a few years of what seemed like potential diplomacy between Assad and other nations, the United States renewed sanctions against Syria in , saying that the regime supported terrorist groups. Many human rights groups reported that Assad regularly tortured, imprisoned and killed political adversaries throughout his presidency. In March of , a group of teens and children were arrested and tortured for writing anti-government graffiti that was thought to be inspired by the Arab Spring rebellion. Peaceful protests broke out in Syria after the graffiti incident and became widespread. Assad and the Syrian government responded by arresting and killing hundreds of protestors and their family members. These events combined with other circumstances, including a lagging economy, a severe drought, a lack of general freedoms and a tense religious atmosphere, led to civilian resistance and, ultimately, an uprising. But by , Syria was engulfed in a full-blown civil war. Estimates vary, but according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, at least , people have been killed since the start of the war or are missing. Hundreds of people were killed outside of Damascus in during a chemical weapons attack. The United States said the assault was carried out by the Syrian government, but the regime blamed rebel forces. What started as a war between the Assad government and Syrian rebels became more complicated as the battle progressed. Since that time, U. The United States has stated their opposition to the Assad regime but has been reluctant to get deeply involved in the war. Russia and Iran have declared themselves allies of the Syrian government. In , Russia launched airstrikes on rebel targets in Syria for the first time. Others have relocated to areas within Syria itself. Europe has also been an important asylum for refugees, with Germany taking in the most.

### 3: Iraq profile - timeline - BBC News

*For 70 years, the Middle East Institute has operated as one of the preeminent centers for Middle East research in Washington, DC. The Institute was founded in by a group of prominent scholars and statesmen who recognized the need for accurate, rigorous scholarship in a rapidly changing post-War.*

From to , the British Empire had a mandate over Palestine. The increasing number of Jewish people immigrating to the Holy Land increased tensions in the region. European geopolitics in the earlier half of the 20th century in the wider Middle East region contributed to a lot of instability overall. The British Empire, especially, played a major role in the region. In return, the British government would support the establishment of an independent Arab state in the region, including Palestine. Yet, in contradiction to this, and to also get support of Jewish people, in , Lord Arthur Balfour, then British Foreign Minister, issued a declaration the Balfour Declaration. As a further complication, there was a deal between Imperial Britain and France to carve up the Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire and divide control of the region. The spoils of war were to be shared. As with the Berlin Conference where Africa was carved up amongst the various European empires, parts of the Middle East were also to be carved up, which would require artificial borders, support of monarchies, dictators and other leaders that could be regarded as puppets

Back to top

Post World War II to After World War II, the newly formed United Nations which then had less developing countries as members recommended the partition of Palestine into two states and the internationalization of Jerusalem. The minority Jewish people received the majority of the land. The two states were to be joined in an economic union, and Jerusalem would be administered by the United Nations. The Arabs would get 43 percent of the land, the Jews 57 percent. The proposed apportionment should be assessed in light of the following facts: The Jewish portion was better land; by the end of the percentage of Palestine purchased by Jews was less than 7 percent; Jewish land purchases accounted for only 10 percent of the proposed Jewish state; and Jews made up less than one-third of the population of Palestine. The United States not only accepted the UN plan, it aggressively promoted it among the other members of the United Nations. That response and his earlier studies of the Bible made him open to the argument that emigration to Palestine was the proper remedy for the surviving Jews of Europe. He, like his predecessor, had promised he would take no action without fully consulting the Arabs, and he reneged. Henderson warned that partition would not only create anti-Americanism but would also require U. But Truman was concerned about the domestic political implications as well as the foreign policy implications of the partition issue. As he himself put it during a meeting with U. I do not have hundreds of thousands of Arabs among my constituents. Later, in a article in the American Zionist, Emmanuel Neumann, president of the Zionist Organization of America, conceded that Truman would not have worked so hard for the creation of Israel but for the prospect of wholesale defections from the Democratic Party. Niles, and Clark Clifford, all members of his staff, and Eddie Jacobson, his close friend and former business partner. The White House, too, was subjected to a constant barrage. I do not think I ever had as much pressure and propaganda aimed at the White House as I had in this instance. The persistence of a few of the extreme Zionist leadersâ€”actuated by political motives and engaging in political threatsâ€”disturbed and annoyed me. Pressure on Truman also came from non-Jewish fundamentalists and politicians. In some cases, support for Jewish admission to and statehood in Palestine may have had another domestic political angle. That support sidestepped the sensitive issue of U. In other words, support for Zionism may have been a convenient way for people who did not want Jews to come to the United States to avoid appearing anti-Semitic. American classical liberals and others, including the American Council for Judaism, opposed the quotas, and it is probable that many of the refugees, given the option, would have preferred to come to the United States. By mid-November the Truman administration was firmly in the Zionist camp. When the State Department and the U. The United States also voted against a UN resolution calling on member states to accept Jewish refugees who could not be repatriated. Senior Editor Sheldon L. The State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14 , but the Arab states rejected the partition of Palestine and the existence of Israel. While the Jewish people were successful in creating their homeland, there was no Palestine and no

internationalization of Jerusalem, either. In for example, Palestinians were driven out of the new Israel into refugee camps in Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon and other regions. At least , people are said to have been driven out or ethnically cleansed, as some have described it. It should be noted that many Jews were also expelled from surrounding Arab countries. Zionist organizations and even some Arab nations also encouraged many Jews to immigrate to Israel. In , Britain, France and Israel invaded the Sinai peninsula after Egypt nationalized the Suez canal because these waning empires feared further loss of power, this time of a major economic trading route entry point for the West to the rest of the Middle East. While Egypt was defeated, international US, really pressure forced their withdrawal. In , Israel simultaneously attacked Egypt, Syria and Jordan in a pre-emptive strike against the Arab troops along its borders. Israel captured key pieces of land, such as the strategic Golan Heights to the north on the border with Syria, to the West Bank from Jordan and the Gaza strip from Egypt. In fact, Israel more than doubled its size in the six days that this war took place. Since then, negotiations have been around returning land to pre states, as required by international law and UN resolutions. In , Egypt and Syria attacked Israel on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur to attempt to regain their lost land, but failed. To many in the Arab world, Egypt had sold out to US pressure. To the US and Israel, this was a great achievement; Egypt was obviously not to be underestimated in its capabilities, so the best thing would be to ensure it is an ally, not an adversary. In , due to rising Hezbollah attacks from South Lebanon, where many Palestinian refugees still were, Israel attacked and invaded Lebanon. In , Israel declared a strip of South Lebanon to be a Security Zone never recognized by the UN, and hence Israel was always occupying this other nation. Many civilians were killed on both sides. Israeli forces were accused of massacres on many occasions. After 22 years, Israel withdrew in May In the late s came the Palestinian uprisingâ€”the Intifada. While there was much of a non-violence movement initially, the mainstream media concentrated on the violence. Young Palestinians confronted Israeli troops with nothing more than sling shots and stones. Thousands were killed by the Israeli military. Many suicide activists killed Israeli soldiers and caused other damage. Many innocent civilians were killed on both sides. This has been largely criticized as a one-sided accord, that benefits only Israel, not the Palestinian people. It resulted in Israeli control of land, water, roads and other resources. In , Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip and Jericho, ending twenty seven years of occupation. A Palestinian police force replaced them. In , then Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, who had been involved in the latest peace processes, was assassinated by a Jewish extremist. In April , Israeli forces bombed Lebanon for 17 days, with Hezbollah retaliating by firing upon populated areas of Northern Israel. Israel also shelled a UN shelter killing about out of civilians sheltering there. The UN claimed it was intentional. October saw the Wye River Memorandum outlining some Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank but Israel suspended it in January due to internal disagreements on its implementation. Back to top to Present Further attempts through to the beginning of were made at continuing the Wye River accord, but kept breaking down due to Palestinian protests of continued new Israeli settlements. The Camp David summit in also failed to come up with solutions on Jerusalem. Sharon has long been accused of massacres in his military days was seen as generally being against the peace process at that time. This proclamation infuriated Palestinians, and led to a series of protests and violence and another major uprising , or intifada. The Palestinian National Authority, which Arafat headed with a police force armed by the Israelis was itself criticized for not serving the full interests of the Palestinian people. In all this time then, the Palestinian people have been without any nation, and have had limited rights, while suffering from poverty. Israel continued to increase and expand their settlements into occupied territories, giving up less and less land compared to what was promised. Many Palestinians that are not Israeli Arabs since living in Israel do not have the right to vote, or have limited rights, while paying full taxes. For over 3 decades, the Palestinian people have been living under a military occupation. Palestinian frustration has spilled into extremism in some cases as well. Many militant groups from Palestine and other areas of the Middle East have therefore sprung up in recent years as well as past decades, performing acts of what the West and Israel describe as terrorism and what the groups themselves justify as freedom fighting though achieving freedom through terrorist actions could arguably still be called terrorist organizations, despite claimed motives. Suicide bombings, and past acts of terrorism have terrorized Israeli civilians, making peace harder and harder to imagine, yet it has been easy to influence and recruit the

young, impressionable and angry into extremist causes. As violence continues, it seems that it will remain easy to find recruits to violent causes. In , Israel started construction of a large defensive security fence in the West Bank supposedly to stop terrorists from making their way in to Israeli cities and settlements. While it mostly seems to have worked, those large fences have drawn international criticism for going quite far into Palestinian land not Israeli land. Israel also continued controversial settlement programs in disputed areas. In June, US President George Bush stated in a speech, I call upon the Palestinian people to elect new leaders and for Israel, I challenge Israel to take concrete steps to support the emergence of a viable, credible Palestinian state. This was widely criticized for amounting to an open call for regime change. In , Israel stepped up its campaign against Hamas, the chief organization behind the suicide attacks of recent years. Arafat himself and his ruling fatah party are also being seen increasingly as corrupt and ineffective by Palestinians themselves. While Palestinian militants announced a ceasefire, Israel continued to assassinate militant leaders. Relative calm only lasted a few weeks, after more targetted assassination and suicide bombings. Abbas resigned soon after, seemingly frustrated by the internal politics. Ahmed Qurei replaced him, seen as more friendly to Arafat. In , Sharon announced a withdrawal of troops and settlements from the Gaza Strip, but a commitment to the largest settlements in the West Bank. On the West Bank, the security fence construction continued, despite continuing protests. The International Criminal Court said the barrier was illegal, but Israel is not bound to it, so ignored it. Turmoil within Palestine increased as Hamas, Fatah, Islamic Jihad and others turned on each other, amid disputes on how to reform the security forces. Despite growing criticism of his leadership in recent years, the outpouring of sorrow and people coming to mourn his death is enormous.

### 4: A brief history of the Middle East - The Intelligent American

*A Brief History of the Middle East has ratings and 30 reviews. Mitchell said: This book could be more aptly titled to the effect of, 'A a brief overv.*

It is for that reason that reading this book was a rather disappointing experience for me. I bought this to educate myself a little more on that region, it is just difficult to pick it up with more entertaining choices on my bookshelf. Oct 20, Jill rated it it was amazing Recommends it for: The exceptional quality is in the viewpoint. It is not possible to document history without some measure of bias - both perceived and actual. History varies not by fact but by version. As he states in the introduction: He typically includes alternative written perspectives and he continually reminds the reader of the inherent difference in perceptions based on world view. When he has an opinion - he is clear to make it an opinion statement: Rembering that it is not possible. No one can change their personal history, experiences, education, knowledge, affiliations etc. He continually notes areas of contention - of his own or among others. While worthy reading for ademics - it is written for a general audience - but accessible to all. One need not have studied history, religion, politics or the region. To be fair - it is unlikely that this region was given much attention in our history classes, nor were events here given much news coverage. This book provides an excellent foundation to understand the current events that dominate front page news today. The more I learn of our collective ignorance - the more I wish it or some such equivalent were required reading! This brief history provides a foundation to understanding the many and complex factors, history, politics, geography, tradition, religion and most important - the very different worldview. Westerners myself first tend to look at everything through the glasses of our own understanding - and thus it is easy to disparage and difficult to appreciate the strong culture, traditions, values and way of life that is so different from our own. His history does not claim to be accurate by appeals to authority, nor does it dispute opinions ad hominem. He explores research critically based on merit rather than personal agreement or contention with the author. At the same time, he is ever mindful of politics and personality and notes where personal perspective may be influencing results. More than once - he agrees with a source on one matter and disagrees on another. Everything Bernard Lewis has to say is not gospel, nor is it all rejected as biased. Abraham, Jesus and Muhammed. This is not only refreshing - but particularly relevent in telling the history of the area that birthed the three religions. He objectively reports the history as detailed in religious books i. The Torah, The Bible, The Quran He notes where, when and if there are outside sources or evidence to support the people or events documented in the religious books. He does not try to prove or disprove the beliefs. As an admittedly provoking note to secular readers. The book is entirely academic. The author, is a well respected historian, a Fellow of the Royal Historical society among other honors. Check out his bio. Perhaps Catherwood would question the ignorance of secularists rejecting belief systems without proof to the same degree as many secularists reject theories that allow for the existance of God - without disproof. But, it is MY note that I am refreshed to see the belief systems of billions of people unquestioned and their intellect unassailed.

### 5: A Brief History of the Middle East Institute | Middle East Institute

*A comprehensive history from the world's foremost authority on the Middle East. In a sweeping and vivid survey, renowned historian Bernard Lewis charts the history of the Middle East over the last 2,000 years, from the birth of Christianity through the modern era, focusing on the successive transformations that have shaped it.*

French Bernard Lewis begins his remarkable survey of Middle Eastern history by conjuring up an ordinary coffee-house in a country like Turkey or Egypt or Iran. Lewis then proceeds to deconstruct the major elements of this picture, in the process showing how its elements nearly all derive from the West. Tables and chairs spread with colonialism, replacing cushions and hassocks. Tobacco comes from America. Newspapers come from Europe, of course, as does nearly all their content, from political coverage to the comics. The same goes for radio and television, including the musical programs. Only the coffee and the board games can boast local origins. This coffee-house setting permits Mr. Lewis to see Western influence in context in turn requires a much deeper immersion into the Middle Eastern experience. That is precisely what Mr. Lewis does. In several ways, the Lewis version of this history improves on that offered by his predecessors. First, it starts not with the seventh century, when Islam originated, but goes the whole back to the time of Jesus. While acknowledging that "the advent of Islamic domination. This has the distinct virtue of placing Islamic history in context, rather than seeing it as an almost complete innovation. Lewis aspires to do more than recite names and dates; he hopes to convey something of the texture of Middle Eastern life. As the coffee-house vignette suggests, his is a thoroughly modern history, full of striking details and illustrative personalities. Lewis succinctly notes a seemingly subtle difference in farming has profound implications: In the Middle East, there is an immemorial separation and conflict between the peasant and the nomad. While some of his information will no doubt be familiar to a reader with basic knowledge of the Middle East, Mr. Lewis draws extensively on his own original research, insuring that much of his book will be novel even to the most practiced Middle East hand. A Brief History aspires to the sophistication found in histories of Europe and the United States - a noteworthy achievement given how thinly, compared to those regions, the Middle East has been studied. Third, the author resists the small-minded orthodoxies of political correctness. Recently dubbed "one of the great prose writers of the last fifty years," Mr. Lewis has a knack for the vignette, the turn of phrase, and the telling quotation; in addition, he unravels complex issues such as the impact of French revolutionary ideas on the Middle East so that one hardly notices their difficulty. Looking to the future, Mr. Lewis writes, "Foreign powers have recently made it clear that, at most, they will "act to defend their own interests, that is to say, markets and oil, and the interests of the international community," but not more. Reconstruct Lebanon and Afghanistan? No thanks, not our business. For all that Middle Easterners continue to blame the West for their problems, he writes, they alone "can decide whether and how to use this window of opportunity while, in an interval of their troubled modern history, it remains open. Lewis wrote his first published article in 1946. Now, on the eve of his 80th birthday later this month, he has written a fitting capstone to his long career, surveying with broad strokes so many of the topics he has previously written about in more detail. The reader can now benefit from this lifetime of study within the covers of a single book.

### 6: The Middle East: A Brief History of the Last 2, Years :: Reviewed by Daniel Pipes

*Senior Editor Sheldon L. Richman, Ancient History: U.S. Conduct in the Middle East Since World War II and the Folly Of Intervention, Cato Policy Analysis No. , CATO Institute, August 16, (Also see this background for more information on how the UN Security Council initially rejected the General Assembly partition plan and why the UN.*

Much of the contributed early spread of Judaism was due to immigration and the Romans forcibly dispersing the rebelling Israelites throughout the first and second century A. The early followers of Mohammed considered Islam, not only a religion but that of a community as well. The history of the Sunni and Shia contention began following the death of the Prophet Muhammed in . As oftentimes remains the case, a significant power struggle ensued following the death of Muhammed as to who should rule the Islamic Caliphate. This pattern of violence would split the Muslim community into two separate branches which remain to this day. The Shia continue to hold to the idea of Ali being the rightful successor with about percent of Shia comprising the entire population of Islam, with the majority residing in present-day Iran and Iraq. The growth of Islam would contribute to Mesopotamia recapturing some of its former status as an ancient empire. Within Baghdad, the Abbasid caliphs would establish an administrative system of the Persian empire. It is at this phase that Islam would become an international religion outgrowing its Arabic roots with Arabic and early Persian languages coalescing. The luxury of Baghdad during the late 8th century is most reflected in the western mind by one of the more famous works commonly known in the west as Arabian Nights, more accurately reflected as the Thousand and One Nights. The end of the 8th century reflects a distinctive Arab civilization within different regions with the triumph of Arabic as the language in the Middle East and North Africa. Africa would become the first region to which Islam would spread by means other than an army, being brought by merchants along trade routes, and by the 11th-century rulers would begin to be converted. A continual territorial expansion of Turkish tribes would contribute to the Ottoman Empire rising to become one of the most powerful states during the 15th and 16th centuries and span more than years. The height of the Ottoman Empire would provide it encompassing areas which would include most of southeastern Europe including Greece, parts of Ukraine, portions of the Middle East, including Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, present-day Hungary, the Balkan region, as well as an expansion into North Africa. The Ottoman Empire is named after Osman, the initial ruler who contributed to the early expansion from a tiny portion of northwest Turkey. During the 18th century, the Ottoman Empire would find itself inevitably embroiled in European affairs as Napoleon invades Egypt with an intention of harming British interest. Additionally, during the early 19th century several schemes by Greek aristocrats would be developed with the intention of liberating Greece. By what is considered misrule would lead to the Balkans mounting to a complete uprising in Bulgaria in , with a revolt also breaking out in the region of Plovdiv in May which is crushed by the extreme ruthlessness of the Turkish volunteers with a complete massacre of somewhere in the vicinity of 15, Bulgarians. This would contribute to anti-Turkish sentiment spreading and by June Serbia would declare war on Turkey, with European anti-Turkish sentiment growing as well. Russia would declare war on Turkey in , with Romania joining Russia in an alliance, and by the s demands from nationalist will have removed Turkish control from more than half of the Ottoman Empire. What was once an expansive empire is being weakened by decades of growing anti-Turkish sentiment, confrontation on multiple fronts, and nationalistic uprisings. The entry of the Ottoman Empire into World War I in November of would lead to the eventuality of the dissolution of the empire. Historians debate the decision of the entry as it is not entirely clear as to the rational as the empire was not officially allied with any of the great empires. Some perceive the early victories of the German army may have led to a hasty decision as opportunistic. As the war continued the Allies-Britain, France and Russia would have many discussions concerning the fate of the Ottoman Empire and its vast territorial expanse. The Sykes-Picot agreement which concluded on May 19, , would divide up the Arab territories into spheres of influence, and the Middle East would be transformed in ways it had not seen in centuries, with Arab resistance movements initiating almost immediately.

### 7: History of the Middle East - Wikipedia

*About A History of the Middle East. The definitive history of the Middle East, thoroughly revised and updated "The best overall survey of the politics, regional rivalries and economics of the contemporary Arab World."*

Christianity was born from within the Jewish tradition, and Islam developed from both Christianity and Judaism. While there have been differences among these religions, there was a rich cultural interchange between Jews, Christians, and Muslims that took place in Islamic Spain and other places over centuries. A brief history of Judaism Judaism is the oldest surviving monotheistic religion, arising in the eastern Mediterranean in the second millennium B. Abraham is traditionally considered to be the first Jew and to have made a covenant with God. Because Judaism, Christianity, and Islam all recognize Abraham as their first prophet, they are also called the Abrahamic religions. Most Jews then lived in Diaspora , as minorities in their communities, until the founding of the state of Israel in When Jews from all over the world came to settle in modern Israel, they found that various subcultures had developed in different areas with distinctive histories, languages, religious practices, customs, and cuisine. Jewish cultural groups Homeless Jews arrive in search of a new life, Haifa, Palestine, July 21, Yiddish, a fusion of German and Hebrew, was the spoken language of the Ashkenazi. In Europe, Jews had tended to be segregated -- voluntarily or not -- from the Christian population. From the late 19th and through first half of the 20th century, many Ashkenazi Jews came to Palestine to escape the persecution and discrimination they faced because of their religion. They once spoke Ladino, a mixture of Hebrew and Spanish. Mizrahi and Sephardic Jewish communities tended to be integrated into their respective societies. Judaism in Israel and America There is great difference of opinion among Israeli Jews over the role Jewish religious law should play in the state. Until recently, Orthodox Judaism was the only form of the religion formally and legally recognized in Israel. Although less conservative branches of Judaism now have partial recognition, Orthodoxy remains dominant politically and legally. About half call themselves secular ; about 15 to 20 percent see themselves as Orthodox or ultra-Orthodox; and the rest describe themselves as traditionally observant, but not as strict as the Orthodox. In the United States, debate over the necessity of observing Jewish law has led to the development of three major movements. Orthodox Jews believe that Jewish law is unchanging and mandatory. Reform and Reconstructionist Jews believe that these laws are merely guidelines that individuals can choose to follow or not. In addition, there are many Jews in the United States who are secular or atheist. For them, their Judaism is a culture rather than a religion. Jewish law is embodied in the Torah also known as the Pentateuch and the Talmud collected commentary on the Torah completed in the fifth-century C. Judaism is more concerned with actions than dogma. In other words, observance of rules regulating human behavior has been of more concern than debates over beliefs in the Jewish tradition. According to Orthodox Judaism, Jewish law, or halakhah, includes commandments given by God in the Torah, as well as rules and practices elaborated by scholars and custom. Jewish law covers matters such as prayer and ritual, diet, rules regulating personal status marriage, divorce, birth, death, inheritance, etc. Therefore, they do not subscribe to the idea that Jesus was the Messiah and the son of God, nor do they believe in the teachings of Islam. Until the emperor Constantine converted to Christianity in C. The development of Christian groups derived from major and minor splits. In the 16th century, Martin Luther, upset at the corruption of the Catholic papacy, spearheaded a reformation movement that led to the development of Protestantism. Christian missionaries proselytize all over the world, and there are large populations of Christians on every continent on Earth, although the forms of Christianity practiced vary. The tradition of asceticism denial of physical pleasures in order to come closer to God developed first in the Middle East, and the monastic tradition has its roots there. These groups have different liturgical languages, rituals, and customs, and different leaders who direct their faith. The Coptic Church, the dominant form of Christianity in Egypt, arose from a doctrinal split in the Church at the Council of Chalcedon in The establishment of Lebanon as an independent state is announced on the steps of a Maronite church, Lebanon, The Maronite Patriarch, based in Lebanon, guides his followers in the teachings of Maroun and other saints. Maronites are still one of the most powerful political communities in Lebanon. There are also Christian

communities of different sects living today in Syria 10 percent of the population , Jordan 6 percent , the West Bank 8 percent , and Iraq 3 percent , with smaller percentages in other Middle Eastern countries. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, many Christians from what is now Syria and Lebanon then the Ottoman Empire emigrated to the United States and other countries. Although Christians are a minority in the Middle East today, more than 75 percent of Americans of Arab descent are Christian. What Christians believe Christianity developed out of the monotheistic tradition of Judaism; Jesus, its founder, was a member of the Jewish community in Roman Palestine. Its holy scriptures are the Old Testament the Jewish Torah with additions , and the New Testament written by the followers of Jesus after his death and containing the life story of Jesus and other early Christian writings. After Jesus was crucified and executed by the Romans, he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. This event is celebrated at Easter, while the birth of Jesus is celebrated at Christmas. Christians believe in an afterlife where those who have lived a good life will reside in heaven with God, and those who have lived an unrepentant life of sin will be punished in hell. Instead, they believe that the ritualistic Jewish law was abrogated in favor of a universal gospel for all of humanity and the Christian teaching, "Love thy neighbor as thyself. There, Jewish communities were often subject to discrimination and violence at the hands of Christians. Christians do not accept Muhammad as a prophet. While many Christians in the Middle East converted to Islam during and after the seventh century, the Church hierarchy in Rome and Constantinople considered Islam to be both a political and theological threat. The Crusades were an unsuccessful attempt to reverse the Islamic conquest of the eastern Mediterranean and the holy places of all three monotheistic religions. A brief history of Islam Pilgrims surround Kaaba, the holiest temple in Islam, at the center of the ancient shrine of Mecca. It developed from both the Judeo-Christian tradition and the cultural values of the nomadic Bedouin tribes of Arabia. Islam expanded into areas controlled by the Byzantine Empire largely Greek-speaking and Orthodox Christian, but with a diverse population and the Sassanian Empire officially Zoroastrian and Persian-speaking, but also diverse. As Islam expanded, the new Islamic societies adapted and synthesized many of the customs they encountered. As a result, Muslims in different areas of the world created for themselves a wide array of cultural traditions. Many elements of Islamic society became integral parts of medieval and Renaissance European culture, like the notion of chivalry, and certain forms of music the lute, the arabesque and poetry. On the eastern end of the Islamic world, many Indonesians converted to Islam between the 15th and 17th centuries. Preexisting animist beliefs were often incorporated into the local practice of Islam. Within Islam, there are many different communities. Adherents of Islam may be more or less observant, conservative or liberal. Whirling dervishes playing musical instruments and dancing, Istanbul, photograph c. The 13th-century poet Jalaluddin Rumi is a well-known Sufi figure whose work has become popular in the United States today. Whirling dervishes are dancers who are entranced in their experience of Sufism. What Muslims believe Muslims believe that Allah the Arabic word for God sent his revelation, the Quran , to the prophet Muhammad in the seventh century C. The Quran contains verses surahs in Arabic that tell Muslims to worship one god, and explains how they should treat others properly. Observant Muslims practice five principles pillars of Islam: Many Muslims also observe dietary rules, in origin similar to those of Judaism, that forbid certain foods like pork , outlaw alcohol, and dictate how animals should be slaughtered for food. The Muslim calendar is lunar, and shifts in relation to the solar calendar. Muslim years are labeled as A. Muslims believe in a Day of Judgment, when righteous souls will go to heaven and wrongdoers will go to hell. Muslims see Islam as the final, complete, and correct revelation in the monotheistic tradition of the three faiths. Many non-Muslims mistakenly believe that Muhammad is the equivalent of Jesus in the Islamic tradition; in fact, it is the Quran that stands in the same central position in Islam as Jesus does in Christianity. Muhammad himself is not divine, but a prophet chosen by God to deliver his message and an example of piety to emulate. Jews and Christians are specifically protected in the Quran as Peoples of the Book, reinforcing their spiritual connection to Islam by virtue of having been given revelations from God. The Islamic legal tradition has upheld the rights of Jews and Christians to maintain their beliefs and practices within their communities in Islamic lands, and this policy of tolerance has generally been upheld.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST pdf

*christopher catherwood: a brief history of the middle east study guide, steven alan samson chapter four: muhammad and the dawn of islam.*

### 9: Syria - HISTORY

*This lucid volume is almost certainly the capstone in the career of a distinguished historian of the Middle East. As such, it is more synthetic than path-breaking, broad in scope rather than sharp in focus. The major themes are of enduring importance: the need to see the region in historical.*

*Barton, W.V. Coalition-building in the United States House of Representatives. Playing on His Team Roots of civic journalism Promise of the new Asia The highway home. Encyclopaedia of oil painting PALAEOECOLOGY AFRICA V23 (Palaeoecology of Africa and the Surrounding Islands) A Little Primer of Tu Fu The Bible and Kural Teas of the world Nanotechnology for cancer therapy Augustine essentials The Aesthetics of Net Literature Anyone can be Financially Free The Dog Lovers Companion to the Bay Area (Dog Lovers Companion Series) The production of space for learning Nick Boreham Justice by lottery Life path number : what each life path offers and desires in love Cambridge dictionary of english Medieval binding structures : potential evidence from fragments Jennifer M. Shepherd Examples of Theodores exegetical method New restaurant business plan Banking project Catia v5 macro programming with visual basic script Hes into her season 3 Kaplan Nursing School Entrance Exam Programs for land-grant schools Slave resistance : should Virginia abolish slavery after the Nat Turner revolt? Pre-Columbian discovery of America by the Northmen Stardust Cassette An advertisement touching private censure, by F. Bacon. Negotiating climate change In Love with Labs SANTA IN FRAME 50 A man said to the universe, by S. Crane. Mathematical applications for combat modeling P.T. Hester A. Collins Dogma as an ecumenical problem, by A. Dulles. Someone like you file The world of Jane Austen 5. The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration*