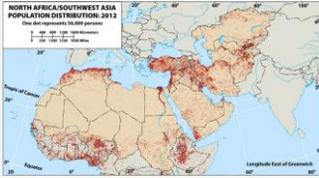


Population Distribution

Map Analysis Activity: Exploring Population Patterns

1. Account for the patterns of population seen in



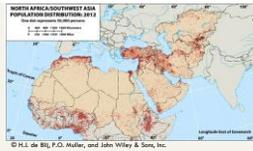
the map. Why might people distribute themselves in these patterns? Consider natural and/ human determinants.

2. How might these patterns indicate a society's economic and technological development?

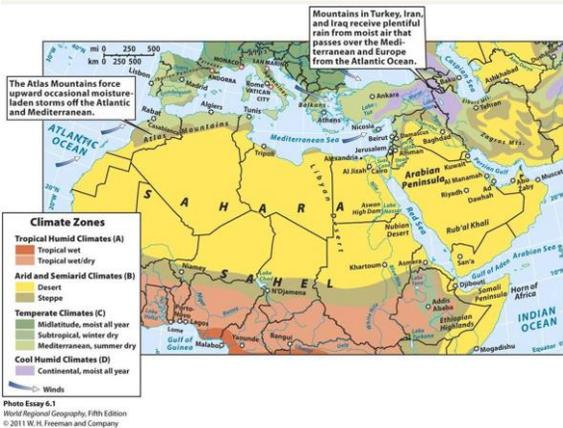
Naming This Pivotal Realm: A "Dry World"?

A "Dry World"?

- Dominance of aridity
- However, most of the realm's people cluster near fresh water sources
 - River valleys, basins, and deltas
 - Moist coastlines
 - Well-watered mountain basins
 - Groundwater sources



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Physical Patterns

- Landforms and Vegetation
 - Rolling landscapes of rocky and gravelly deserts and steppes cover most of North Africa and Southwest Asia
 - In a few places, mountains capture moisture, allowing plants, animals, and humans to flourish

Physical Patterns

- Landforms and Vegetation
 - In northwestern Africa, the Atlas Mountains stretch from Morocco on the Atlantic coast to Tunisia on the Mediterranean coast, creating rainfall of more than 50 inches (127 centimeters) per year
 - Africa and Southwest Asia are separated by a rift formed between two tectonic plates (the African Plate and the Arabian Plate) which is now filled by the Red Sea



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Figure 6.1a
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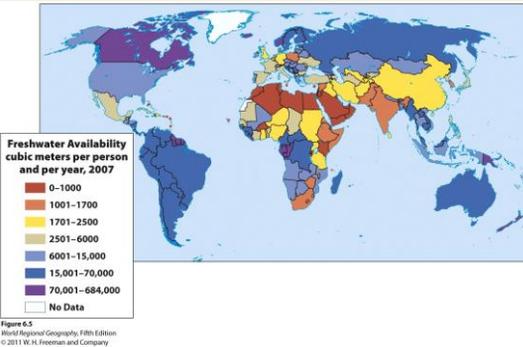


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Environmental Issues

- Water and Food Production
 - The greatest use of water is for irrigated agriculture, even though agriculture does not contribute significantly to national economies

Naming This Pivotal Realm:

An "Islamic World"?

- Contested geographies beyond the realm:
 - Today, the largest Muslim state is Indonesia.
 - Suggests that there is no Islam beyond the realm's borders, when the Islamic faith extends far outside it.
- Contested geographies within the realm:
 - Christian minority populations in all the realm's regions.
 - Judaism has its base in the realm.
 - Smaller religious communities abound.
- Islam has wide-ranging impact on the realm's cultural geographies.

Naming This Pivotal Realm:

States and Nations

- Despite some cultural similarities:
 - Islam and its expressions
- Fractious political and social geographies exist:
 - Internal divisions
 - Nations without states
 - Territories in progress
 - Boundary framework from the colonial era
 - Populations unevenly dispersed in countries, regions, and the realm overall

Hearths of Cultures: *Dimensions of Culture*

- Realm of cultural crossroads, exhibits:
 - **Cultural geography:** wide-ranging and comprehensive field studying spatial aspects of human cultures
 - **Culture hearths:** crucibles of civilization and sources of dynamic ideas, innovations, and ideologies
 - **Cultural diffusion:** set of processes that extended the spread ideas and innovations far and wide
 - **Cultural landscapes:** the forms and artifacts placed on the natural landscape by sequential human occupants

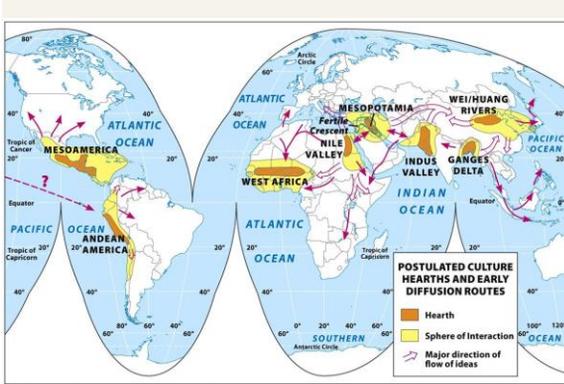
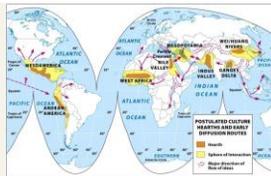


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Hearths of Cultures: *Dimensions of Culture*

Map Analysis Activity: *Humanizing Map Representations*



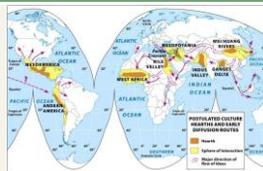
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1. Explain each of the features: **Hearth** and **Sphere of Interaction**. What do each imply? What might really be happening on the ground?
2. How do ideas really flow over distances and even oceans?
3. Offer some explanations of what the map's implied, flowing 'cultural ideas' might be.

Hearths of Cultures: *Rivers and Communities*

Mesopotamia

- **Fertile Crescent:** region of significant agricultural productivity:
 - Knowledge of crop and animal domestication
- **Hydraulic civilization theory:** urban control over irrigated hinterland meant power over others and food as a weapon



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- Irrigation was key to prosperity and power:
 - Successful settlements developed into cities

Hearths of Cultures: *Rivers and Communities*

Egypt and the Nile

- ❑ Cultural evolution with the Nile River's environmental security:
 - ❑ Surrounded by inhospitable desert
 - ❑ River was highway for trade and interaction
 - ❑ River provided irrigation with predictable rhythms
- ❑ Advanced urban civilization



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Concept Caching:
City of the Dead, Cairo, Egypt



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Hearths of Cultures: *Decline and Decay*

- ❑ Another theory for decline of civilizations:
 - ❑ **Climate change** and shifting environmental zones:
 - Along with overpopulation and human destruction of natural vegetation.
 - Agricultural planning and irrigation technology were not innovations, as much as they were survival tactics for changing environmental conditions.
- ❑ As old societies disintegrated, power emerged elsewhere and came to imperialize the area:
 - ❑ Persians, Greeks, and Romans ruled at various time periods.

Stage for Islam: *The Faith*

- ❑ Unifying monotheism:
 - ❑ Islam shares precepts with Judaic and Christian beliefs.
 - ❑ Brought new set of values and new way of life:
 - Islam requires Five Pillars of observance.
 - Proscribed alcohol, smoking, and gambling.
 - Mosques became places for social gathering.
 - ❑ Mecca became the spiritual center for a divided, widely dispersed people.
 - ❑ Collective focus on Islam was new.

Stage for Islam: *Routes of Diffusion*

- Spread of Islam:
 - **Spatial diffusion** as the way ideas, inventions, and cultural practices spread over space and time
 - Takes place in two forms:
 - **Expansion diffusion:** propagation waves originate in a strong and durable source area, spreading outward.
 - This mostly explains Islam's spread.
 - **Relocation diffusion:** migrants carry an innovation, idea, or object from the source to distant locations and it diffuses from there.

Stage for Islam: *Islam on the March*

- Expansion diffusion types:
 - **Contagious diffusion** as a person-to-person
 - **Hierarchical diffusion** from higher orders, like kings, down to their subjects
- Today relocation diffusion continues Islam's expansion.



- Map shows enormous dimensions of **Islamization**, as the establishment of Islam

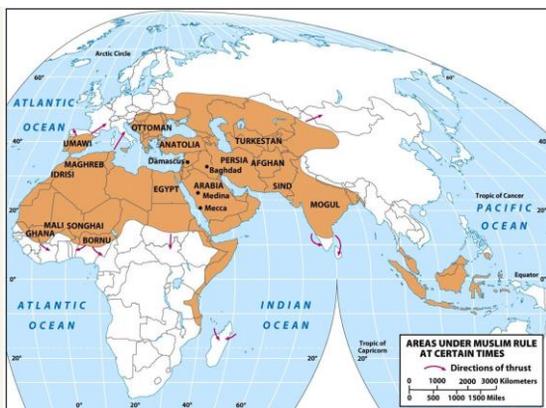


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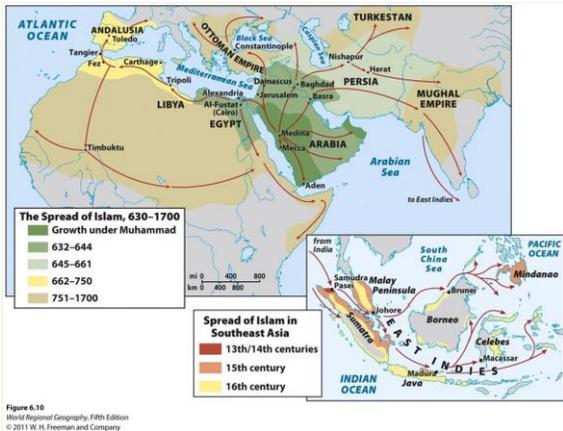
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Stage for Islam: *Islam and Other Religions*

- Levant is source area of major faiths:
 - Area extends from Greece eastward along the Mediterranean coast to northern Egypt.
 - Older Christianity and Judaism came from the area.
- Conflict between faiths:
 - Islam submerged some Jewish communities.
 - Christians waged "holy wars" against Muslims during the Crusades.
 - Christians are minorities in the region.
 - Jewish state in conflict with Muslim neighbors.

The Flowering of Islamic Culture

- Glorious expansion of Islamic culture:
 - Science, art, architecture, and other fields
- Wave of Islamic diffusion into the Maghreb and into Iberia:
 - Moorish invasion of Spain
 - Controlled most of southern Iberia
 - *Al-Andalus*
 - Islamic castles, mosques, schools, gardens, and public buildings
 - Pushed out by Catholic armies eventually



Islam Divided

- Division of Islam into sects:
 - Split over who should be Muhammad's successor:
 - *Shi'ites* wanted a blood relative.
 - *Sunnis* saw any devout follower as qualified.
 - Sunnis dominate in number and in expansion of Islam.

The Strength of Shi'ism

- After vigorous promotion, the Persian kingdom made Shi'ism the only legal religion in its empire:
 - Created a large culture region for the sect
- Schism between sects underlies many of the realm's conflicts



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A Future Kurdistan?

- At the intersection of Turkey, Iraq, and Iran:
 - Fractured and fragmented nation
 - Occupied that isolated, mountainous frontier zone for over 3000 years
- Kurds as a **stateless nation**, a peoples without control over their territory:
 - They are a divided people whose disunity has thwarted their dream of a nation-state.
 - They will likely be without a territory for economic productivity into the future.

The Power and Peril of Oil

- Big Five all located in the realm:
 1. Saudi Arabia
 2. Iran
 3. Iraq
 4. Kuwait
 5. United Arab Emirates
- Ream's three discontinuous zones of oil and natural gas:
 - North Africa
 - Persian Gulf
 - Around the Caspian Sea

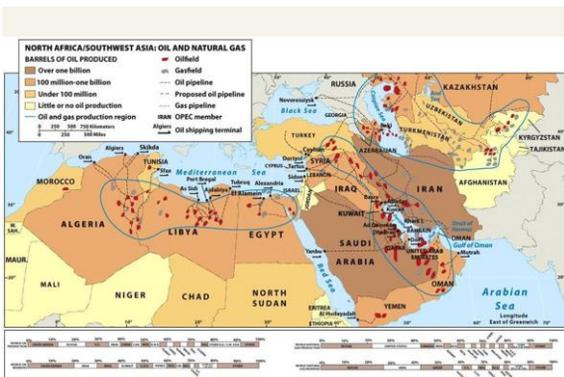


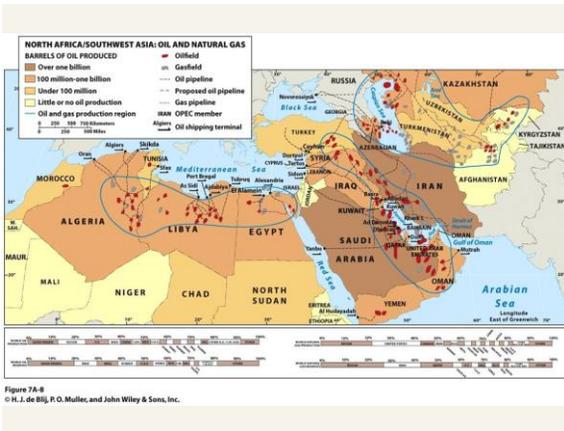
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The Power and Peril of Oil: *Producers and Consumers*

- Global oil production:
 - Saudi Arabia is world's largest oil exporter.
 - Realm's production exceeds all other global sources.
- Effect of oil revenues:
 - Has elevated some into the higher-income category
 - Has also made them all globally interdependent

The Colonial Legacy

- Colonial boundaries laid without knowledge of underlying resource geographies.
- Another source of division and distrust among neighbors.



The Power and Peril of Oil: *A Foreign Invasion*

- Discovery of oil necessitated a foreign presence:
 - Realm's states in need of skills, capital, and equipment
 - Transporting oil abroad required strategic arteries
- Effects of foreign intervention:
 - Intervention in economic activities and political affairs
 - Penetration of Islamic society by Western ways
 - Intensification of contrasts:
 - Traditional vs. modern and rich vs. poor
- To some, this violated the basic tenets of the Islamic faith

The Power and Peril of Oil: The Geography of Oil's Impact

- *Regional Disparities*
 - Strong contrasts within and among countries
- *Foreign Investment*
 - Realm's governments and private entrepreneurs have invested oil wealth in other countries:
 - Creates a network of international links between economies and Islamic communities abroad
- *Foreign Involvement*
 - Oil industry relies on foreign input and exports:
 - To some, this is an very unwelcome byproduct

The Power and Peril of Oil: The Geography of Oil's Impact

- *Intra-Realm Migration*
 - Oil production requires additional labor inputs.
 - The first order of migrants are from the realm itself.
- *Migration from Other Realms*
 - Not all inputs can met by intraregional migrants.
 - Also driven by difference in wages between realms.
- *Diffusion of Revivalism*
 - Oil revenues as investment into Islamist communities and structures throughout the world.
 - Relocation diffusion of revival of Islam.

Fragmented Modernization: The Uneven Impact of Oil

- **Fragmented modernization** is a pattern where a few regions experience most of the development while the rest are left unaffected.
- Cultural-geographic forces in the realm have greater influence than economic-geographic:
 - Realm of great degree of existing variety and diversity.
 - Oil has amplified inequalities and disparities both *within* and *between* countries.

Fragmented Modernization: Autocratic Regimes

- Colonial legacy on governance:
 - European rule endorsed by the **League of Nations**, the forbearer of the **United Nations**.
 - Europeans were determined not to let go and eventual independence was earned through conflict.
 - None of the formerly European administered areas were prepared to function as democracies.
- Autocratic default:
 - Newly independent and autocratic states were then cemented by foreign geopolitical plots.

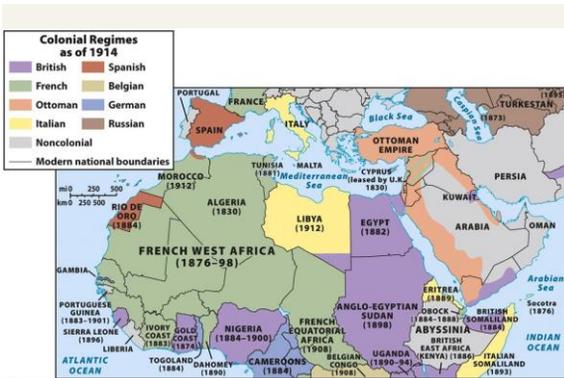
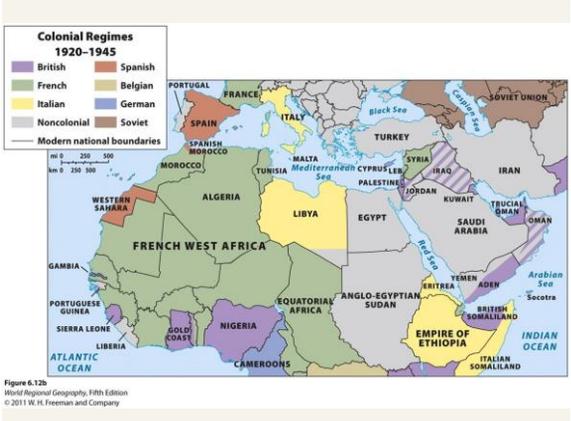


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Fragmented Modernization: Autocratic Regimes

- Foreign support of autocratic regimes in the realm to secure access to oil supplies:
 - Elsewhere, regimes part of Cold War alignments
- Varying politics of government:
 - Republics or monarchies
 - Secular or Islamic
- Autocratic common denominator:
 - Long “top-down” rule of some political leaders
 - Sometimes violence, repression, and economic disenfranchisement



Fragmented Modernization: *Religious Revivalism*

- ❑ **Religious revivalism**, or religious movements with objectives to return to foundations of its faith:
 - ❑ Fundamentalists wish to affect state policy and society.
 - ❑ A return to religion is a way to regain hope and dignity.
- ❑ Often a product of several viewpoints:
 - ❑ Traditional Islamic values are eroding.
 - ❑ Society is being corrupted by foreign presences.
 - ❑ Islamic power is declining in secular states.
- ❑ Revivalism into fanaticism: a step further:
 - ❑ Pits Muslim against Muslim in areas of the realm



Fragmented Modernization: *Terror in the Name of Islam*

- Essential awareness:
 - Most Muslims are not fundamentalists.
 - Not all fundamentalists are militants.
 - Not all militants are terrorists.
 - Terrorism as a tool of war is not exclusive to Islam.
- **Jihad**, or "holy war," is a deeply reactionary movement looking at the past not the future:
 - Pursued by some Muslim militants with an extreme fundamentalist interpretation of the Quran
 - Used as a vehicle for political power

Fragmented Modernization: *Terror in the Name of Islam*

- **Taliban** in Afghanistan is a kind of Islamic militia:
 - Follow **Wahhabism**, an orthodox form of Sunni Islam
 - Have a rigid view of Islamic law
 - Seek to return to an essentially premodern society
- **al-Qaeda** in parts of northern Pakistan have a global agenda:
 - A multinational network with a tightly knit core
 - Aim to establish Islamic rule across the realm and banish all foreign influence

Changing Population Patterns

- Although the region as a whole is nearly twice as large as the United States, most of the population is concentrated in the few areas that are useful for agriculture
- The region's 477 million people are packed into coastal zones, river valleys, and mountainous areas that capture orographic rainfall
- Fertility rates have dropped significantly since the 1960s to 3.1 children per woman in 2009
- The majority of people are under 25 years of age
- The population of the region will reach 540 million by 2025

The Popular Uprisings of 2011: An Arab Spring?

- Arab Spring: desire for democracy and end to cronyism, corruption, repression, and economic mismanagement
 - From Tunisia to Egypt, Libya, Syria, Yemen, and Bahrain

Revolutionary Dominoes

- **Domino effect:** spread of political destabilization rapidly to parts of the realm with similar conditions
 - Ruled by long-established autocratic regimes
 - Failure to bring economic progress
 - Repression of their people
 - Had lost touch with the people, especially the youth
- Aided by modern communication systems: TV and the Internet

The Popular Uprisings of 2011: An Arab Spring? A New Generation

- Youthfulness of the realm's populations:
 - Many state population have more than half under 25
 - Contrast to archaic nature of realm's governments, and many have known only one leader in their lifetime
- Uprisings predominately led by youths:
 - Used Internet's social networks to organize protests
- Uncertain future: lack of suitable social and political structures for the transition
- Varying role of some countries' Shi'ite minority

Regional Issue: Religious Revival or Democratic Reform?

ISLAMIC REVIVAL IS THE ONLY WAY

- The Islamic faith took root throughout the world, now outnumbering Christians.
- Muslims brought science and enlightenment, but have been demoralized in return.
- "Whoever supports the infidel against Muslims is himself an infidel."
- Salvation lies in a return to the strictest rules of Islam.

ISLAMIC COUNTRIES NEED DEMOCRATIC REFORM

- No coincidence that the socioeconomic indicators of Muslim-dominated countries are low ranking.
- Realm's Muslims are caught between despotic regimes and extremist revivalists in a downward spiral.
- In need of freedom with both political and religious reform.

The Popular Uprisings of 2011:

- Arab Spring as a populist movement:
 - Grievances ranged from economic issues to religious repression.
 - Initially, religious revivalists did not lead in protests.
 - Later, it was seen as an opportunity to oust autocratic regimes that ruthlessly persecuted fundamentalists.

What do you think?

1. What do you think will happen in the realm's future?
2. What will prevail: democratic, revivalist, autocratic, or a mix of regimes?
