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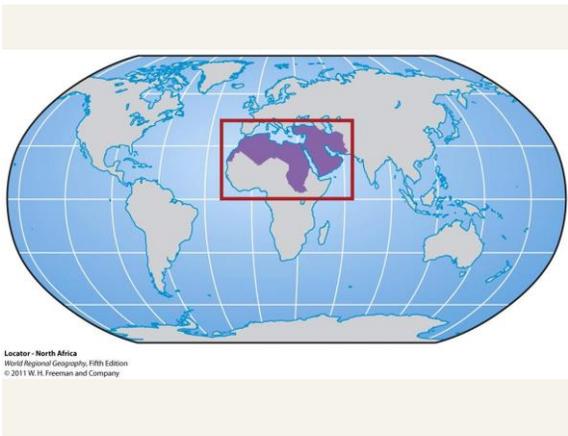
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## Egypt and the Lower Nile Basin: Economic and Political Discontent

- Economic growth and development:
  - Exporter and tourist destination
  - Literacy and local consumption have increased
- Economic inequality remains:
  - Main beneficiaries of growth are wealthy and upper-middle class
  - More than half of population are under 25 and lack economic opportunity
- Inequality and autocratic repression have long sowed discontent

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## Egypt and the Lower Nile Basin: Political Upheaval

- Followed Tunisia into the “Arab Spring”
  - President Mubarak resigned after about a month of protests and violence.
- Post-Mubarak Egypt: a future in the making:
  - Military leaders took control.
  - Constitutional amendments were voted on and parliamentary elections scheduled.
  - Considering the **Turkish Model** as a multiparty democracy including, but not dominated by, Islamic parties.

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### Egypt and the Lower Nile Basin: *North Sudan*

- South of Egypt: twice its area, but smaller population
  - Confluence of White and Blue Nile: Khartoum
    - Surrounded by sizable agricultural area where cotton has remained significant since colonial times
  - Most is desert, with irrigated agriculture along the banks of the White and Blue Nile
  - Was typical of an energy-poor country of the realm:
    - Exchanged sheep, cotton and sugar for oil
  - Drained by a civil war after colonial independence




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### Egypt and the Lower Nile Basin: *North Sudan*

#### *Oil in the Transition Zone*

- Discovery of significant oil reserves and overnight transformation from importer to exporter:
  - Foreign investors overlooked human rights violations by the regime based in Khartoum.
  - Oil wealth brought forced relocations, wealth to a few.
  - Oil fueled an independence movement and eventual split.
- Political Split: North and South:
  - North has a larger territory and is Islamic.
  - Followed six decades of conflict.
  - Most oil fields are in South; export pipelines in the North.

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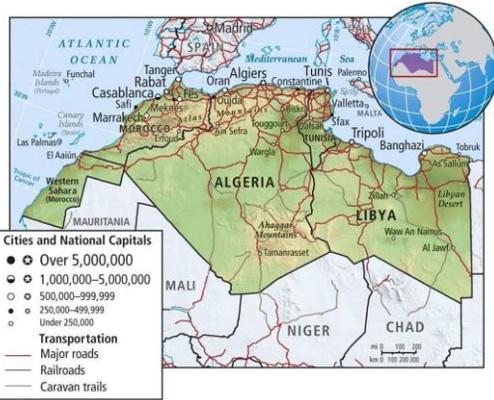
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## The Maghreb and Its Neighbors: The Maghreb Countries

### Tunisia

- Outranks surrounding Maghreb countries:
  - Higher urbanization, higher social indicators, and lower population growth rate.
  - Productive capacity lies in the hinterland of the historic capital, Tunis.
- Launched the Arab Spring:
  - Revolt against repressive and corrupt government finally ousted the dictator of the totalitarian **police state**.
  - Must deal with the power vacuum and dysfunctional government system.

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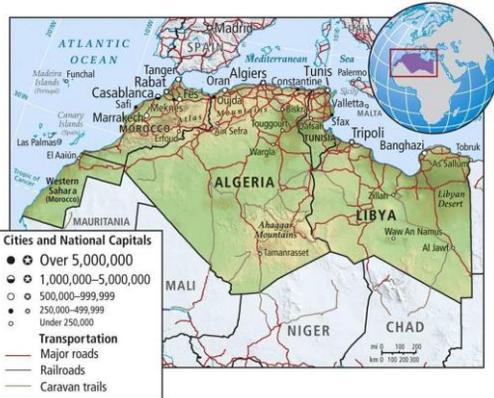


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## The Maghreb and Its Neighbors: *Libya*

- Libya's economy:
  - Limited agriculture
  - Oil as main economic driver
- Fight for the Arab Spring:
  - Gadhafi's iron-fist response to protests
  - Underlying tribal divisions
  - Some tribes in support of and others repressed by Gadhafi



- Led to civil war
  - Rebel forces fought to take cities
  - Help of NATO forces
  - Gadhafi killed

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## The Maghreb and Its Neighbors: *Adjoining Saharan Africa*

### Mauritania

- Miniscule population overwhelmingly Muslim
  - Half concentrated around fishing fleet coastal capital
- Infamous as modern day toleration of slavery
  - Banned in 1981, still continues despite crackdowns

### Mali

- Multicultural state of many types of Muslims and some Christians
- Relies on Niger river for irrigation
- Population clustered in the *African Transition Zone*



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## The Maghreb and Its Neighbors: Adjoining Saharan Africa

### Niger

- Niger River lifeline for irrigating this mineral-exporting country
- Former French dependency

### Burkina Faso

- No river, no coastline, and few prospects
- Destructive floods and severe drought

### Chad

- Split by the *African Transition Zone*
  - In turmoil, between religious divisions, attempts to overthrow the government and spillover from Darfur




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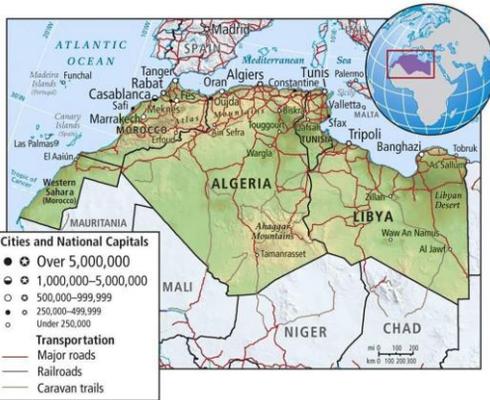
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## The Middle East: Crucible of Conflict

### □ Middle East

- Originated when Europe was the world's dominant realm
  - Naming was from the European perspective: *near*, *middle*, and *far* from Europe
- Meaning today:
  - Very commonly used
  - Middle of the vast Islamic realm
- An important region for world affairs

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## The Middle East: Crucible of Conflict Iraq's Enduring Importance

- Pivotal site and situation
- Territory, Arab population, energy, and agricultural resources
- Geopolitical bonds with six neighbors and the world
- 2003 U.S. military invasion
  - Portion of the Kurdish **stateless nation**
- Nearly landlocked, but for a small Gulf outlet:
  - 1990, tried to annex Kuwait




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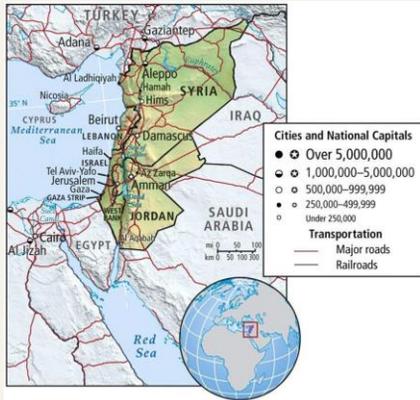
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## The Arabian Peninsula: On the Peninsular Periphery

### Oman

- ❑ Fragmented Sultanate
- ❑ Part forms the Hormuz Strait **choke point**

### Yemen

- ❑ Relatively new state and borders
  - ❑ Early political stability succumbs to centrifugal forces/ terrorism
- ❑ Overlooks Bab el Mandeb choke point
- ❑ "Arab Spring" continuing clashes




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## The Empire States: Turkey

- ❑ Environmental and economic diversity

### Capitals New and Old

- ❑ Ankara and Constantinople/Istanbul:
  - ❑ Strategic threshold location
- ❑ Modernization of Turkey:
  - ❑ Secularization
  - ❑ Some westernization



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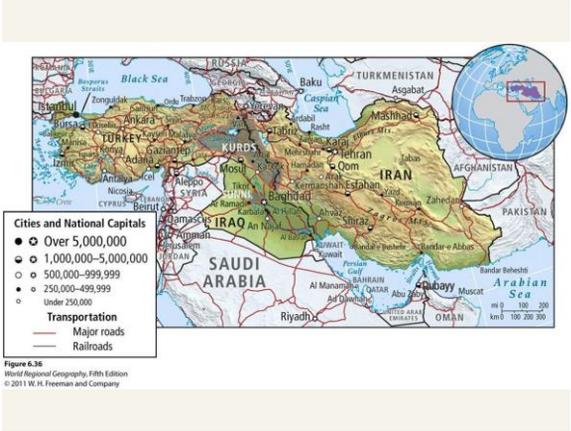
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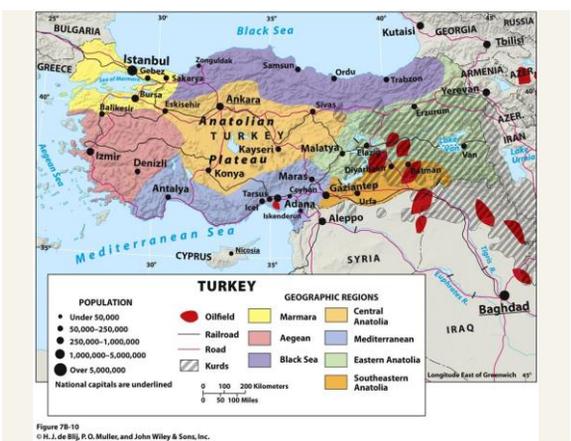
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Among The Realm's Great Cities: *Istanbul*

- Formerly Constantinople
- Center of Byzantine and Ottoman Empires
- Incomparable site and situation:
  - Europe meets Asia
  - Black Sea and Mediterranean
- Cultural and commercial headquarters of Turkey
- Urban problems




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## The Empire States: *Turkey*

### *Turkey and Its Neighbors*

- History of intolerance to minorities
  - Armenian population
  - Modern harsh treatment of Kurds
    - Suppression in Turkey and across the border in Iraq
    - Awarded rights and freedoms to noninsurgent Kurds

### *Turkey and the EU*

- Potential eligibility for EU membership
  - Obstacles: Cyprus, Kurds, and Turkey's human rights record
  - Progress: secular democracy and improving minority relations

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## The Empire States: *Iran*

### *A Crucial Location and Dangerous Terrain*

- Controls the corridor between the Caspian Sea and Persian Gulf
- Mountainous, geologically active, and arid heart

### *City and Countryside*

- Ancient cities dependent on *qanats*, underground tunnels carrying water from the mountains
- Tehran: internal contradictions
  - Modernization in the cities
  - Surrounded by an unchanged countryside

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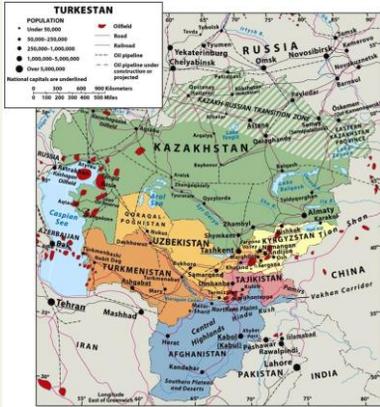


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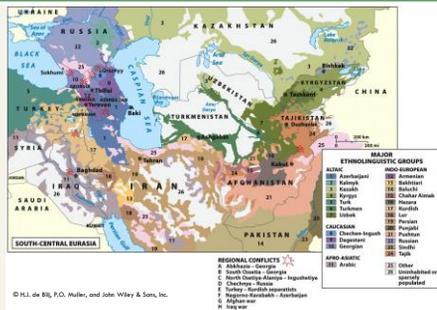
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### Turkestan: The Six States of Central Asia



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### Turkestan: The Six States of Central Asia: *The States of Former Soviet Central Asia*

- From Soviet suppression to Islamic revival:
  - Islamic dress, symbolic gestures of national leaders
  - Observance of Islamic holidays
- Residual Russian influence:
  - Reviving links with Moscow
  - Continuing economic and cultural ties
  - Weak representative government

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**Turkistan: The Six States of Central Asia:**  
*The States of Former Soviet Central Asia*

**Turkmenistan**

- Small, autocratic desert republic
- Economic efforts: canals, increasing oil, and gas outputs



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Turkistan: The Six States of Central Asia:  
*The States of Former Soviet Central Asia*

**Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan**

- Mountainous landscapes lead to complex cultural and political geographies:
  - Enclaves and exclaves link neighbors
  - Topography a barrier to multicultural integration
  - Growing Islamic revivalism
  - Governments plagued by conflicts between ethnic groups



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## Turkestan: The Six States of Central Asia: *Fractious Afghanistan*

### Clouded Future

- U.S. government military efforts:
  - Plagued by U.S. preoccupation with Iraq, entrenched hold of the Taliban
- Afghan complexities have been an obstacle to control and/or stability throughout its history:
  - Social complexity
  - History with foreign influence
  - Warrior culture
  - Islamic intensity and traditional male dominance
  - Endemic corruption

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## Turkestan: The Six States of Central Asia *Fractious Afghanistan*

### Clouded Future

- Afghan complexities have been an obstacle to control and/or stability throughout its history
  - Physical geography
  - Limited subsistence opportunities for most Afghan people
  - Entrenched narcotic agriculture and illicit economy



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