A Study of Islamic Perspective on Contemporary Civilizational Issues

Appendices
Ahmadinejad, Mahmoud

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, also written Ahmadinezhad, (b. October 28, 1956 C.E.), is the sixth president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. His term began on August 3, 2005 C.E.

In 1975 C.E., he ranked 130th in the nationwide university entrance exams. He then got his diploma and was admitted to the Iran University of Science and Technology in the field of civil engineering. He was accepted as an MS student at the same university in 1984 C.E. and got his doctorate in 1987 in the field of engineering and traffic transportation planning while he was the governor of Ardabil province.

Ahmadinejad was appointed mayor of Tehran from May 3, 2003 C.E. until June 28, 2005 C.E. when he was elected president. He is widely considered to be a religious conservative with Islamist and populist views. Ahmadinejad was a civil engineer and an assistant professor at the Iran University of Science and Technology before his mayorship.

Politically, Ahmadinejad is a member of the Central Council of the Islamic Society of Engineers, but he has a more powerful base inside the Alliance of Builders of Islamic Iran (Abadgaran). Ahmadinejad is considered one of the main figures in the alliance.

Since his election as the president of Iran, Ahmadinejad has been a controversial figure. In February 2006 C.E. Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying: “Now in the West insulting the prophet is allowed, but questioning the Holocaust is considered a crime. We ask, why do you insult the prophet? The response is that it is a matter of freedom, while in fact they are hostages of the Zionists”.

Albright, Madeleine

Madeleine Korbel Albright (b. May 15, 1937 C.E. in Prague, Czechoslovakia now the Czech Republic) served as the 64th United States Secretary of State. Madeleine Albright was nominated by President Bill Clinton on December 5, 1996 C.E., as Secretary of State. After being unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate, she was sworn in as the 64th Secretary of State on January 23, 1997 C.E. till January 20, 2001 C.E. Albright was the first woman Secretary of State, and at that time the highest ranking woman in the history of the U.S. government. She and her parents moved to the United States in 1948 C.E. when the Communists assumed power in Czechoslovakia. She became a U.S. citizen in 1957 C.E.
From 1978 C.E. to 1981 C.E., as both a staff member of the White House and the National Security Council, Albright was an important Carter Administration official responsible for the formulation of foreign policy legislation. From 1976 C.E. to 1978 C.E., she served as Chief Legislative Assistant to Senator Edmund Muskie.

Before becoming Secretary of State, Albright served as a member of President Clinton's Cabinet. Today, Secretary Albright is once again a professor at Georgetown. Albright currently serves as chairwoman of National Democratic Institute for International Affairs.

Alexander

Alexander the Great (transliterated Megas Alexandros) was born in Pella, Macedon, in July, 356 BC, died in Babylon, on June 10, 323 BC, King of Macedon 336 BC - 323 BC, is considered one of the most successful military commanders in world history, conquering most of the known world before his death.

He is also known in Middle Eastern traditions as Dhul-Qarnayn in Arabic and Dul-Qarnayim in Hebrew and Aramaic (the two-horned one), apparently due to an image on coins minted during his rule that seemingly depicted him with the two ram’s horns of the Egyptian god Ammon. He is known as “Sikandar” in Hindi, in fact in India the term Sikandar is used as a synonym for “expert” or “extremely skilled”.

Following the unification of the multiple city-states of ancient Greece under the rule of his father, Philip II of Macedon, (a labor Alexander had to repeat twice because the southern Greeks rebelled after Philip’s death), Alexander was a legend in his own time.

Annan, Kofi

Kofi Atta Annan (b. April 8, 1938 C.E.) is a Ghanaian diplomat and the seventh and current Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Annan started working for the World Health Organization, an agency of the United Nations, in 1962 C.E.

On December 13, 1996 C.E., Annan was selected by the UN Security Council to be Secretary-General and was confirmed four days later by the General Assembly. Annan took the oath of office without delay, starting his first term as Secretary-General on January 1, 1997 C.E. Annan replaced outgoing Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt, becoming the first person from a black African nation to become Secretary-General.

Annan was Secretary-General during the 2003 C.E. invasion of Iraq and called for the United States and the United Kingdom not to invade without UN support. In 2004 C.E. Annan called the invasion and occupation illegal.
Arafat, Yasser

Yasser Arafat (b. August 4 or August 24, 1929 C.E. – d. November 11, 2004 C.E.), born as Mohammed Abdel-Raouf Arafat al-Qudwa al-Husseini and also known by the *kusayr* Abu 'Ammar was Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) (1969 C.E. – 2004 C.E.); President of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) (1993 C.E. – 2004 C.E.); and a co-recipient of the 1994 C.E. Nobel Peace Prize.

Arafat was a controversial and polarizing figure throughout his lengthy career. While his supporters viewed him as a heroic freedom fighter who symbolized the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, his opponents often described him as an unrepentant terrorist with a long legacy of promoting violence. Still others accused him of being a deeply corrupt politician or a weak leader who made too many concessions to the Israeli government during efforts to settle the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Arafat’s long personal and political survival was taken by most Western commentators as a sign of his mastery of asymmetric warfare and his skill as a tactician, given the extremely dangerous nature of politics of the Middle East and the frequency of assassinations. Some commentators believe his personal survival was largely due to Israel’s fear that he could become a martyr for the Palestinian cause if he was to be assassinated or even arrested by Israel. Others believe that Israel kept Arafat alive because they feared Arafat less than Hamas and the other Islamist movements gaining support over Arafat’s secular organization. The complex and fragile web of relations between the U.S., Israel, Saudi Arabia, and other Arab states also contributed to Arafat’s longevity as Palestinian leader.

Aristotle

Aristotle (b. 384 BC – d. March 7, 322 BC) was an ancient Greek philosopher, student of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great. He wrote books on many subjects, including physics, poetry, zoology, logic, rhetoric, government, and biology.

Aristotle, along with Plato and Socrates, is generally considered one of the most influential of ancient Greek philosophers. They transformed Presocratic Greek philosophy into the foundations of Western philosophy. The writings of Plato and Aristotle form the core of Ancient philosophy.

Aristotle was called not a great philosopher, but “The Philosopher” by Scholastic thinkers. These thinkers blended Aristotelian philosophy with Christianity, bringing the thought of Ancient Greece into the Middle Ages. It required a repudiation of some Aristotelian principles for the sciences and the arts to free themselves for the discovery of modern scientific laws and empirical methods.
Though we know that Aristotle wrote many elegant treatises (Cicero described his literary style as “a river of gold”), the originals have been lost in time. All that we have now are the literary notes for his pupils, which are often difficult to read (the *Nicomachean Ethics* is a good example). It is now believed that we have about one fifth of his original works.

**Ashrawi, Hanan**

Hanan Daoud Khalil Ashrawi (b. 8 October 1946 C.E.) is a Palestinian Anglican scholar who is well-known as one of the most articulate Palestinian spokespersons. In both her scholarly work as well as her political activism, she was a protege and later colleague and close friend of Edward Said. In the Palestinian legislative elections held in January 2006 C.E., she was reelected to the Palestinian Legislative Council on a national list, ‘The Third Way’, which won two seats out of a total of 132.

Ashrawi was born in Ramallah, then a part of the British Mandate of Palestine. Her father was a founder of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Ashrawi’s political activism in the Palestinian Territories began almost as early as her academic career at Birzeit. In 1974 C.E., while the university was suffering intermittent closures by the Israeli military, she founded the Birzeit University Legal Aid Committee/Human Rights Action Project. Her political work took a greater leap in 1988 C.E. during the Intifada uprising, when she joined the Intifada Political Committee, serving as well on its Diplomatic Committee until 1993 C.E. From 1991 C.E. to 1993 C.E. she served as the official spokesperson of the Palestinian Delegation to the Middle East peace process and a member of the Leadership/Guidance Committee and executive committee of the delegation.

From 1993 C.E. to 1995 C.E., with the signing of the peace accords by Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin, Palestinian self-rule was established, and Ashrawi headed the Preparatory Committee of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens’ Rights in Jerusalem. Ashrawi has also served since 1996 C.E. as an elected member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, Jerusalem District.

In 2003 C.E. Ashrawi was awarded the Sydney Peace Prize, although creating controversy in the process amongst conservative Australians, who decried the selection of Ashrawi, saying that she was a ‘terrorism apologist’.

**Baker, James**

James Addison Baker III (b. April 28, 1930 C.E. at Houston, Texas), American politician and diplomat, was Chief of Staff in President Ronald Reagan’s first administration, United States Secretary of the Treasury from 1985 C.E. to 1988 C.E. in the second Reagan administration, and Secretary of State in the administration of President George H. W. Bush. He was the 61st Secretary of State of America from January 20, 1989 C.E. - August 23, 1992 C.E. He is also the
founder of the James Baker Institute.

Originally a Democrat, Baker switched to the Republican party and managed George H. W. Bush's unsuccessful Senate campaign in 1970 C.E.

He served as Undersecretary of Commerce under President Gerald Ford in 1975 C.E. and ran Ford's unsuccessful election campaign in 1976 C.E. Baker ran an unsuccessful race in 1978 C.E. to become State Attorney General of Texas.

After serving as George H.W. Bush's campaign manager in the 1980 C.E. Republican primaries, Baker was named White House Chief of Staff by President Reagan in 1981 C.E. He served in that capacity until 1985 C.E. Due to Reagan's passive management style, Baker is seen as wielding a high degree of influence over the successes and failures of the first Reagan administration, particularly in domestic policy.

Bush appointed Baker Secretary of State in 1989 C.E., in which position he continued to serve through 1992 C.E., being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1991 C.E. From 1992 C.E. to 1993 C.E. he was named Bush's Chief of Staff. He is credited as a leading architect of the peaceful transition from communism to democracy in Europe beginning in 1989 C.E. Together with President Bush, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and German Foreign Minister Genscher he is one of the inspirators of German reunification.

**Balfour, Arthur**

The Right Honourable Arthur James Balfour, 1st Earl of Balfour, (b. 25 July 1848 C.E. at Whittingehame, Haddingtonshire – d. 19 March 1930 C.E. at Woking, Surrey) was a British statesman and the thirty-third Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (11 July 1902 C.E. – 5 December 1905 C.E.). He is perhaps best known as author of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 C.E., promising a homeland for the Jewish people.

He was the President of the Local Government Board (1885 C.E. – 1886 C.E.), and later Secretary for Scotland (1886 C.E.) with a seat in the cabinet. These offices, while having few opportunities for distinction, served as a sort of apprenticeship for Balfour. On the death of W. H. Smith in 1891 C.E., he became First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of the House of Commons.

**Bana, Hasan al**

Hassan al Banna (b. October 14, 1906 C.E. – d. February 12, 1949 C.E.) was an Egyptian social and political reformer best known as founder of the al-Ikhwan al-Muslimum (Muslim Brotherhood).

Hassan al-Banna is known to have great impact in the modern Islamic thought. He managed to introduce Islam as an all-inclusive system of life, providing a practical example through his society.
Hasan al-Bana as a school teacher founded *al-Ikhwan al-Muslimun* in 1928 C.E., to promote a social renewal based on an Islamic ethos of altruism and civic duty, in opposition to political and social injustice and to British imperial rule. The organisation initially focused on educational and charitable work, but quickly grew to become a major political force as well, by championing the cause of disenfranchised classes, playing a prominent role in the Egyptian nationalist movement, and promoting a conception of Islam that attempted to restore broken links between tradition and modernity.

**Barak, Ehud**

Ehud Barak (b. February 12th, 1942 C.E., in Mishmar HaSharon kibbutz, then British Mandate of Palestine) is an Israeli politician and was the 10th Prime Minister of Israel from 17th May, 1999 C.E. – 7th March, 2001 C.E. He is also considered the most decorated soldier in IDF history.

Barak joined the Israel Defense Forces in 1959 C.E. and served for 35 years, rising to the position of Chief of the General Staff and the rank of Rav Aluf, the highest in the Israeli military. During his service as a commando, Barak took part in a covert mission (Operation Spring of Youth, Beirut 1973 C.E.) in which he was disguised as a woman in order to gain access to terrorists. Barak was awarded the "Distinguished Service Medal" and four other citations for courage and operational excellence.

In politics, he served as Minister of the Interior (1995 C.E.) and Minister of Foreign Affairs (1995 C.E. – 1996 C.E.). He was elected to the Knesset in 1996 C.E., where he served as a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. In 1996 C.E. Barak became the leader of the Labor Party.

**Bazargan, Mehdi**

Mehdi Bazargan (b. September, 1907 C.E. – d. January 20, 1995 C.E.) was head of Iran's interim government, virtually Iran's first prime minister after the Iranian Revolution of 1979 C.E. He was one of the architects of the Iranian Revolution.

Bazargan was educated in thermodynamics and engineering at the École Centrale des Arts et Manufactures in Paris, where he also joined the French Army and fought against Nazi Germany.

A pro-democracy activist, Bazargan came back from France and became the head of the first engineering department of Tehran University in the late 1940s. In 1951 C.E. with the leadership of Dr. Mossadegh, Iranian parliament nationalized the Iranian oil industry (National Iranian Oil Company) and removed it from British control. Mr. Bazargan served as the first Iranian head of National Iranian Oil Company under command of Prime Minister Mossadegh.

After the fall of the Mossadegh government, he co-founded the Liberation
Movement of Iran and was jailed several times by Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi.

Bazargan was appointed to the prime ministership by Ayatullah Khomeini on February 5, 1979 C.E. after the revolution forced the Shah to leave Iran.

Bazargan was a member of the first Majlis (Parliament) of the newly formed Islamic Republic. He died on January 20, 1995 C.E. while travelling from Tehran to Zurich, Switzerland from a heart attack.

Beheshti, Ayatullah Muhammad

Ayatollah Dr. Sayyid Muhammad Hussaini Beheshti (b. October 24, 1928 C.E. – d. June 28, 1981 C.E.) was an Iranian cleric, the secretary-general of the Islamic Republic Party, and the head of the Islamic Republic's judicial system. He was assassinated together with more than seventy members of the Islamic Republic party on June 28, 1981 C.E.

Between 1960 C.E. and 1965 C.E., he led the Islamic Center in Hamburg, where he was responsible for the spiritual leadership of religious Iranian students in Germany and Western Europe. In Hamburg, he also worked with Mohammad Khatami and was among his influences. Since the early 1960s, he was involved in activities against the Shah regime and was arrested several times by the Shah’s secret police, the SAVAK.

Following the Iranian Revolution, he became one of the original members of the Council of Revolution of Iran and soon its chairman. In the first post-revolutionary Iranian parliament, he led the Islamic Republic party together with Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Ben-Gurion, David

David Ben-Gurion (b. October 16, 1886 C.E. – d. December 1, 1973 C.E.) was the first Prime Minister of Israel. He was born as David Grün in Płońsk, Poland which was then part of the Russian Empire. His father, Avigdor Grün was a lawyer and a leader in the Hovevei Zion organization.

Ben-Gurion was at the political forefront of the Labor Zionist movement during the fifteen years leading to the creation of the State of Israel when Labor Zionism had become the dominant tendency in the World Zionist Organization.

During the pre-statehood period in Palestine, Ben-Gurion represented the mainstream Jewish establishment and was known as a moderate, with whose Haganah organization the British dealt with frequently, sometimes in order to arrest more radical groups involved in resistance against them. He was strongly opposed to the Revisionist Zionist movement led by Ze’ev Jabotinsky and his successor Menachem Begin.
Berlusconi, Silvio

Silvio Berlusconi (b. September 29, 1936 C.E.) is the current Prime Minister of Italy. He is the leader of the Forza Italia political movement, a party which he officially announced in January 1994 C.E., to run for the first time in the general election in March of the same year.

Berlusconi served as Prime Minister for a short term (seven months) in 1994 C.E. In 2001 C.E., he was appointed to the office again; the second Berlusconi government is the longest-lasting in Italy’s republican history. On April 20, 2005 C.E., Berlusconi tendered the resignation of his government, after his party reported large losses in regional elections. The resignation was also due to internal problems in his coalition. On April 23, 2005 C.E., he formed a new government, bringing only minor changes with respect to the previous one.

He is the founder and the first shareholder of Fininvest, a large Italian company dealing with media and financial business. According to Forbes Magazine, Silvio Berlusconi is Italy’s richest person, a self-made man with personal assets worth $12,000,000,000 (USD) in 2005 C.E., making him the world’s 25th richest person.

Blair, Tony

The Right Honourable Anthony Charles Lynton Blair (b. 6 May 1953 C.E. in Edinburgh, Scotland) is the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (2 May, 1997 C.E.–present), First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service. He has led the Labour Party since July 1994 C.E., (following the death of John Smith in May of that year) and brought Labour into power with a landslide victory in the 1997 C.E. general election, replacing John Major as Prime Minister and ending 18 years of Conservative government. He is now the Labour Party’s longest-serving Prime Minister, and the only person to have led the party to three consecutive general election victories.

Blair is credited, along with Gordon Brown and Peter Mandelson, with moving the Labour Party towards the centre of British politics, using the term “New Labour” to distinguish his policies of support for the market economy from the party’s previous rigid adherence to nationalisation. He has referred to his policy as “modern social democracy” and “the third way”.

Since the advent of the ‘War on Terror’, a significant part of Blair’s political agenda has been dominated by foreign affairs, particularly those concerning Iraq. Despite public protests, he supported many aspects of United States President George W. Bush’s foreign policy, sending British forces to participate in the 2003 C.E. invasion of Iraq and the subsequent occupation and is known as one of the strongest foreign allies of the United States. In October 2004 C.E. Blair declared his intention to seek a third term but not a fourth. First term from 1997 C.E. to 2001 C.E., second term from 2001 C.E. to 2005 C.E. and third term from 2005 C.E. till
Due to Blair's close co-operation with the USA on the war in Iraq, where the UK was one of several countries to offer military support to the US-led invasion, he has been called "Bush's poodle", "Governor of the 51st state" and "Tony in the London office". The alliance between the two men is somewhat upsetting to many supporters of his party, which traditionally allies itself with the Democrats. United States President George W Bush has enjoyed a very close relation with Blair to the point that in his post-9/11 speech, he claimed that the United States had no greater friend than Great Britain.

Bush, George H. W.


George Herbert Walker Bush was born to Prescott Bush and Dorothy Walker. His father served as a U.S. Senator from Connecticut and was a partner in the prominent investment banking firm Brown Brothers Harriman. His grandfather, for whom he was named, was George Herbert Walker, a wealthy businessman and important figure in American golf history.

Bush, George W.

George Walker Bush (b. July 6, 1946 C.E.) is the 43rd and current President of the United States from January 20, 2001 C.E. – present. Prior to his political career, he was an entrepreneur in the oil industry and served as the managing general partner of the Texas Rangers baseball team.

Bush, a Republican, was elected 46th Governor of Texas in 1994 C.E. and was re-elected in 1998 C.E. From there, he moved on to win the nomination of the Republican Party for the 2000 C.E. presidential race and ultimately defeated Democratic Vice President Al Gore in a particularly close and controversial general election. In 2004 C.E., Bush was elected to a second term, defeating Democratic Senator John Kerry. This term expires January 20, 2009 C.E.

Bush is a member of a prominent political family: his father, George H. W. Bush, served as U.S. President for four years and as Vice President for eight, his brother Jeb Bush is the current Governor of Florida, and his grandfather, Prescott
Bush, was a Republican United States Senator from Connecticut. Among his family, he acquired the nickname W (for his middle initial; later Dubya, a literal spelling of a colloquial pronunciation of the letter), which has become a common public nickname, used both affectionately and pejoratively.

Carter, Jr., Jimmy E.


In addition to some of Carter’s major accomplishments he participated in international matter as well. In foreign affairs, Carter’s accomplishments consisted of the Camp David Accords, the Panama Canal Treaties, the creation of full diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China, and the negotiation of the SALT II Treaty. In addition, he championed human rights throughout the world and used human rights as the center of his administration’s foreign policy.

In the 1960s, he served two terms in the Georgia Senate. His 1962 C.E. election, which followed the end of Georgia’s County Unit System per the Supreme Court case of Gray v. Sanders, was chronicled in his book Turning Point: A Candidate, a State, and a Nation Come of Age. The election involved corruption led by Joe Hurst, the sheriff of Quitman County. This included people voting in alphabetical order and dead people voting. It took a challenge of the fraudulent results for Carter to win the election. Carter was reelected in 1964 C.E., to serve a second two year term.

In 1966, at the end of his career as a state senator, he chose to run for the United States House of Representatives. His Republican opponent dropped out and decided to run for Governor of Georgia. Carter did not want to see a Republican as the governor of his state and in turn, dropped out of the race for Congress and joined the race to become Governor. Carter lost the election and for the next four years, returned to his peanut farming business and carefully planned for his next campaign for Governor in 1970 C.E., making over 1,800 speeches throughout the state.

Cheney, Richard Dick

Bruce Cheney (b. January 30, 1941 C.E. at Lincoln, Nebraska), widely known as Dick Cheney, is the 46th and current Vice President of the United States from January 20, 2001 C.E. under President George W. Bush.

Dick Cheney’s political career began under the Nixon administration in 1969 C.E. He served in a number of positions, such as: Cost of Living Council, at the United States Office of Economic Opportunity (as a special assistant to Donald
Rumsfeld beginning in the spring of 1969 C.E.), and within the White House. Under President Gerald Ford, Cheney became Assistant to the President and the youngest White House Chief of Staff in history. He was campaign manager for Ford’s 1976 C.E. presidential campaign, while James Baker served as campaign chairman. These factors would widely gain influence later in Cheney’s career. Cheney served as the Secretary of Defense from March 1989 C.E. to January 1993 C.E. under President George H. W. Bush.

Christopher, Warren

Warren Minor Christopher (b. October 27, 1925 C.E.) is an American diplomat and lawyer. During Bill Clinton’s first term as President, Christopher served as the 63rd Secretary of State of the US

Churchill, Winston

The Right Honourable Sir Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill, (b. 30 November 1874 C.E. at Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxfordshire – d. 24 January 1965 C.E. at Hyde Park Gate, London) was a British politician, best known as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during the Second World War. At various times a soldier, journalist, author, and politician, Churchill is generally regarded as one of the most important leaders in British and world history. He won the 1953 C.E. Nobel Prize in Literature. In a poll conducted by the BBC in 2002 C.E. to identify the “100 Greatest Britons”, participants voted Churchill to be history’s “greatest” Briton. He was in office twice from 10 May 1940 C.E. – 27 July 1945 C.E. and 26 October 1951 C.E. – 7 April 1955 C.E.

In 1911 C.E., Churchill became First Lord of the Admiralty, a post he would hold into the First World War. He gave impetus to military reform efforts, including development of naval aviation, tanks, and the switch in fuel from coal to oil, a massive engineering task, also reliant on securing Mesopotamia’s oil rights, bought circa 1907 C.E. through the secret service using the Royal Burmah Oil Company as a front company.

After the end of the war Churchill served as both Secretary of State for War and Secretary of State for Air (1919 C.E. – 1921 C.E.).

Churchill’s histories of the two world wars are, of course, far from being conventional historical works, since the author was a central participant in both stories and took full advantage of that fact in writing his books. Both are in a sense, therefore, memoirs as well as histories, but Churchill was careful to broaden their scope to include events in which he played no part – the war between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, for example. Inevitably, however, Churchill placed Britain, and therefore himself, at the centre of his narrative.
Cleveland, Harlan

A Princeton University graduate in 1938 C.E., he was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University in the late 1930s; an economic warfare specialist (in Washington, D.C.) and United Nations relief and rehabilitation administrator (in Italy and China) in the 1940s.

During the 1960s Harlan Cleveland served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs in the administration of President John F. Kennedy, and in 1965 C.E. was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson as U.S. Ambassador to NATO, serving in that post also under President Richard Nixon until May 1969 C.E. From 1969 C.E. to 1974 C.E. he was President of the University of Hawaii, of which he is now President Emeritus. From 1974 C.E. to 1980 C.E. he developed and directed the Program in International Affairs of The Aspen Institute, with headquarters both in Princeton, New Jersey, and in Aspen, Colorado. During 1977 C.E. - 1978 C.E. he was also chairman of the U.S. Weather Modification Advisory Board. In 1979 C.E. he served for one semester as the Distinguished Visiting Tom Slick Professor of World Peace at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin.

Clinton, William Jefferson

William Jefferson “Bill” Clinton (b. August 19, 1946 C.E. at Hope, Arkansas) was the 42nd President of the United States, serving from January 20, 1993 C.E. – January 20, 2001 C.E. Clinton served five terms as the Governor of Arkansas. His wife, former First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, is currently the junior U.S. Senator from New York.

Generally regarded as a moderate populist, and a member of the moderate New Democrat wing of the Democratic Party, he headed the centrist Democratic Leadership Council in 1990 C.E. and 1991 C.E. During his tenure as president, his domestic priorities included efforts to create a universal healthcare system, upgrade education, to restrict handgun sales, to strengthen environmental regulations, to improve race relations, and to protect the jobs of workers during pregnancy or medical emergency. His domestic agenda also included other themes such as reforming welfare programs, expanding the “War on Drugs”, and increasing law enforcement funding. Internationally, his priorities included reducing trade barriers, preventing nuclear proliferation, and mediating the Northern Ireland peace process and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts.

Clinton was the third-youngest president, behind Theodore Roosevelt (the youngest) and John F. Kennedy (the youngest elected). He was the first baby boomer president. Clinton was one of only two Presidents in American history to be impeached, and was acquitted by a vote of the United States Senate on February 12 1999 C.E.
Columbus, Christopher

Christopher Columbus (b. October 30, 1451 C.E. – d. 20 May 1506 C.E.) was an explorer and trader who crossed the Atlantic Ocean and reached the Americas on October 12, 1492 C.E. under the flag of Castile. History places a great significance on his landing in America in 1492 C.E., with the entire period of the history of the Americas before this date usually known as pre-Columbian, and the anniversary of this event, Columbus Day, is celebrated in many parts of America. Although there is evidence of Pre-Columbian trans-Atlantic Ocean European contact, Columbus is commonly credited as "the" European discoverer of the Americas because of the profound impact his contact wrought on history. His voyage marked the beginning of the European exploration and colonization of the Americas.

Dante

Durante degli Alighieri, better known as Dante, (b. June 1, 1265 C.E. – d. September 13/14, 1321 C.E.) was an Italian Florentine poet. His greatest work, La divina commedia (The Divine Comedy), is considered the greatest literary statement produced in Europe in the medieval period, and the basis of the modern Italian language.

Dharmapala, Anagarika

Anagarika Dharmapala (b. 1864 C.E. – d. 1933 C.E.) was born David Hewavitarne in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka was then a British colony known as Ceylon, so Hewavitarne's state education was a Christian one.

He studied Pali and worked for the good of humanity. It was at this time that he changed his name to Dharmapala (meaning "Guardian of the Dharma").

In 1891 C.E., he paid his first visit to the holy Buddhist places of northern India and found them in a very neglected condition.

In 1893 C.E. Dharmapala was invited to attend the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago as a representative of “Southern Buddhism” — which was the term applied at that time to the Theravada. He was a great success and by his early thirties he was already a global figure, continuing to travel and give lectures and establish viharas around the world during the next forty years.

Dharmapala was the first anagarika — that is, a celibate, full-time worker for Buddhism — in modern times. It seems that he took a vow of celibacy at the age of eight and remained faithful to it all his life. Although he wore a yellow robe, it wasn’t of the traditional bhikkhu pattern, and he didn’t shave his head. He felt that the observance of all the vinaya rules would have got in the way of his work, especially as he flew around the world.
Downer, Alexander


Downer's major recent challenge has been handling relations with Australia's most important neighbour, Indonesia. On 20 December 2004 C.E., he became the longest serving Foreign Minister of Australia.

Eisenhower, Dwight D.

Dwight David "Ike" Eisenhower (b. October 14, 1890 C.E. at Denison, Texas – d. March 28, 1969 C.E. at Washington, D.C.) was an American soldier and politician. He served as the 34th President of the United States (January 20, 1953 C.E. – January 20, 1961 C.E.) as well as Supreme Commander of the Allied forces in Europe during World War II, with the rank of General of the Army.

During the late 1920s and early 1930s Eisenhower's career in the peacetime Army stagnated. He was assigned to the American Battle Monuments Commission, directed by General John J. Pershing, then to the Army War College, and then served as executive officer to General George V. Moseley, Assistant Secretary of War, from 1929 C.E. to 1933 C.E. He then served as chief military aide to General Douglas MacArthur, Army Chief of Staff, until 1935 C.E., when he accompanied MacArthur to the Philippines, where he served as assistant military advisor to the Philippine government. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1936 C.E. after sixteen years as a Major.

Fadlallah, Muhammad Hussein

Grand Ayatullah Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah (b. 1935 C.E.) is a leading Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim scholar, and is often called the spiritual leader of Hizbullah.

He was born in the town of Al-Najaf al-Ashraf, Iraq, and studied first in a traditional school, and then in a modern school established by the journalist Jamiat Muntada Al-Nasher. Fadlallah published a minor periodical, and went to Lebanon in 1952 C.E.

During the Lebanese civil war, he was kidnapped by Lebanese Christian militias and forced to leave Nab'aa town (in eastern Beirut suburbs). He relocated to Haret Hreik and Beir Al-'Abed (in Beirut southern suburbs). He condemned what he saw as imperialism and Zionism in Lebanon's affairs, and he defended the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic movement in Lebanon. In his sermons, he supported armed resistance to the occupation of Lebanon and Palestine. He was the target of several assassination attempts, including a car bombing in 1985 C.E. that killed 80 people and is alleged to have been organized by the Central Intelligence
Agency.

He has issued a fatwa forbidding any Muslim from aiding the United States in its occupation of any Muslim country.

Feinstein, Dianne

Dianne Goldman Berman Feinstein (b. June 22, 1933 C.E.) is a Democratic U.S. Senator from California, a position she has held since 1992 C.E. She was also San Francisco’s first (and to date, only) woman mayor.

Fischer, Joschka

Joseph Martin “Joschka” Fischer (b. April 12, 1948 C.E.) was German foreign minister and Vice Chancellor in the government of Gerhard Schröder from 1998 C.E. to 2005 C.E. He was a leading figure in the German Green Party and according to opinion polls, he was the most popular politician in Germany for most of the government’s duration. Following the September 2005 C.E. election, in which the Schröder government was defeated, he left office on 22 November 2005 C.E.

Fosdick, Harry Emerson

Harry Emerson Fosdick (b. 1878 C.E. – d. 1969 C.E.) American clergyman, b. Buffalo, N.Y., graduated from Colgate University, 1900 C.E., and Union Theological Seminary, 1904 C.E. Ordained a Baptist minister in 1903 C.E. Fosdick was the most prominent liberal baptist minister of the early twentieth century C.E. He was Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church on West Twelfth Street and then at historic Riverside Church (formerly Park Avenue Baptist Church) in New York City.

Fosdick became a central figure in the conflict between fundamentalist and liberal forces within American Protestantism in the 1920s and 1930s. While at First Presbyterian Church, on May 12, 1922 C.E., he delivered his famous sermon “Shall the Fundamentalists Win?” in which he defended the modernist position.

Dr. Fosdick was an outspoken opponent of racism and injustice. Fosdick also supported appeasement of Hitler and argued “moral equivalence”, i.e. that the democracies were largely to blame for the rise of fascism.

Freeman, Jr. (Amb.), Chas. W.

Ambassador Chas. W. Freeman, Jr. succeeded Senator George McGovern as President of the Middle East Policy Council on December 1, 1997 C.E. He was the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs from 1993 C.E. – 1994 C.E., earning the highest public service awards of the Department of Defense for his roles in designing a NATO-centered post-Cold War European security system and in reestablishing defense and military relations with China. He served as
U. S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia (during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm). He was Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs during the historic U.S. mediation of Namibian independence from South Africa and Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola.

Chas. Freeman served as Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargé d’Affaires in the American embassies at both Bangkok (1984 C.E. – 1986 C.E.) and Beijing (1981 C.E. – 1984 C.E.). He was Director for Chinese Affairs at the U.S. Department of State from 1979 C.E. – 1981 C.E. He was the principal American interpreter during the late President Nixon’s path-breaking visit to China in 1972 C.E. In addition to his Middle Eastern, African, East Asian and European diplomatic experience, he served in India.

Gama, Vasco da

Vasco da Gama (b. 1469 C.E. at Sines or Vidigueira, Alentejo, Portugal; d. December 24, 1524 in Cochin, India) was a Portuguese explorer, one of the most successful in the European Age of Discovery, and the first person to sail directly from Europe to India.

Commissioned by King Manuel I of Portugal to find Christian lands in the East (the King, like many Europeans, was under the impression that India was the legendary Christian Kingdom of Prester John), and to gain Portuguese access to the commercial markets of the Orient, da Gama extended the sea route exploration of his predecessor Bartholomew Dias, who had first rounded Africa’s Cape of Good Hope in 1487 C.E., culminating a generation of Portuguese sea exploration fostered by the nautical school of Henry the Navigator.

Da Gama’s voyage was successful in establishing a sea route from Europe to India that would permit trade with the Far East, without the use of the costly and unsafe Silk Road caravan routes, dominated by Muslims, in the Middle East and Asia. However, the voyage was also hampered by its failure to bring any trade goods of interest to the nations of Asia Minor and India. The route was fraught with peril: only 54 of his 170 voyagers, and two of four ships, returned to Portugal in 1499 C.E. Nevertheless, da Gama’s initial journey led directly to several-hundred year era of European domination through sea power and commerce, and 450 years of Portuguese colonialism in India that brought wealth and power to the Portuguese throne.

Gardner, Richard N.

Ambassador Gardner was named by President Clinton to serve as a U.S. Alternate Representative to the 55th Session of the UN General Assembly and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on December 7, 2000 C.E. He was sworn into office on December 12, 2000 C.E. by Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke, the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations.
Currently, Ambassador Gardner is a member of a UN Association group engaged in a dialogue on multilateral issues with the Chinese Institute of International Studies. He is a Professor of Law and International Organization at Columbia Law School, and Of Counsel to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, a global law firm. He served as U.S. Ambassador to Spain (1993 C.E. – 1997 C.E.) and as U.S. Ambassador to Italy (1977 C.E. – 1981 C.E.). Ambassador Gardner serves as a member of the Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations and was a member of the U.S. Delegation to the Ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organization, which was held in Seattle in 2004 C.E. Besides these he has served US at various other posts.

Richard N. Gardner first became a member of Columbia University in 1957 C.E. In 1961 C.E. he left the University to accept a high ranking governmental position. Today he is the Henry L. Moses Professor of Law at Columbia University School of Law and Professor of International Organization at SIPA.

Gates, Robert

Dr. Robert Michael Gates (b. September 25, 1943 C.E.) served as Director of Central Intelligence from November 6, 1991 C.E. until January 20, 1993 C.E., capping a 26-year career in the CIA and the National Security Council. He is currently the President of Texas A&M University and the National President of the National Eagle Scout Association.

In January of 2004 C.E., President George W. Bush offered Dr. Gates the position of United States Director of National Intelligence, a post created in the wake of the September 11th, 2001 C.E. attacks. He declined the offer for unknown reasons and instead committed to remain as President of Texas A&M University through the summer of 2008 C.E.

Ghali, General Boutros Boutros

Boutros Boutros-Ghali (b. November 14, 1922 C.E.) is an Egyptian diplomat and the sixth Secretary-General of the United Nations from January 1992 C.E. to December 1996 C.E.

He had served as Egypt’s Minister of State for Foreign Affairs from 1977 C.E. until early 1991 C.E. He then became Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs for several months before moving to the UN. As Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, he played a part in the peace agreements between Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Elected to the top post of the UN in 1992 C.E., Boutros-Ghali’s term in office remains controversial. He was criticized for the UN’s failure to act during the 1994 C.E. Rwandan genocide, which ultimately killed about 800,000 people, and he appeared unable to muster support in the UN for intervention in the continuing civil war in Angola. His reputation thus became entangled in the larger
controversies over the effectiveness of the UN and the role of the US in the UN. For his detractors, he came to symbolize the UN’s alleged inaction in the face of humanitarian crises, while his defenders often accused the US of blocking UN action.

Boutros-Ghali was succeeded at the UN by Kofi Annan. Since Boutros-Ghali was not given a second term, a successor was chosen from his region, Africa.

Gildersleeve, Virginia

Virginia Gildersleeve (b. Oct. 3, 1877 C.E. – d. July 7, 1965 C.E.), the daughter of Henry Alger Gildersleeve, a judge, and Virginia Crocheron Gildersleeve was the Professor of English and Dean of Barnard College from 1911 C.E. to 1947 C.E., did more to advance the cause of women at Columbia University than any other person of her time. Women had won the right to an undergraduate education with the founding of Barnard College (1889 C.E.), and they had achieved the formal right to enter the Columbia graduate faculties after another decade of conflict. But prejudice against female graduate students persisted, the professional schools remained closed, and places on the faculty appeared largely out of reach, when Gildersleeve became Dean of Barnard in 1911 C.E. Over the next four decades she worked steadily to advance women’s interests.

When the delegates from around the world assembled in San Francisco in April, 1945 C.E., they were instructed to write a Charter that addressed two issues. The first was the need to prevent future wars. This they were to accomplish through the creation of a Security Council. The second issue was the need to enhance human welfare, which they were to accomplish through the establishment of an Economic and Social Council. Gildersleeve sought and received drafting responsibility for the work of this second Council — the one, as she put it, in charge of doing things rather than preventing things from being done. Virginia Gildersleeve was the sole female US delegate to the San Francisco United Nations Charter Conference in April 1945 C.E.

Gingrich, Newt

Newton Leroy Gingrich, Ph. D., (b. June 17, 1943 C.E.) is an American politician who is best known as the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives from 1995 C.E. to 1999 C.E. In 1995 C.E. he was named Time Magazine’s “Man of the Year” for his role in leading the Republican Revolution in Congress, ending 40 straight years of Democratic majorities in the House. During his tenure as Speaker he represented the public face of the Republican opposition to President Bill Clinton.

Gingrich has maintained a career as a political analyst and consultant, and continues to write works related to government and other subjects such as historical fiction. He has expressed some interest in being a candidate for the 2008 C.E.
Gorbachev, Mikhail

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev (Gorbachyov) (b. March 2, 1931 C.E. at Privolnoye, near Stavropol, Soviet Union), was leader of the Soviet Union from 11 March 1985 C.E. - 25 December 1991 C.E. His attempts at reform led to the end of the Cold War, but also caused the end of the political supremacy of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the dissolution of the Soviet Union. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990 C.E.

In international affairs, Gorbachev sought to improve relations and trade with the West. He established close relationships with several Western leaders, such as Margaret Thatcher—who famously remarked: "I like Mr. Gorbachev—we can do business together"—West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. On October 11, 1986 C.E., Gorbachev and Reagan met in Reykjavík, Iceland to discuss reducing intermediate-range nuclear weapons in Europe. This led to the signing of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) in 1987 C.E. In February 1988 C.E., Gorbachev announced the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. The withdrawal was completed the following year.

Haass, Richard

Richard N. Haass (b. 1951 C.E. in Brooklyn), has been president of the Council on Foreign Relations since July of 2003 C.E. Prior to coming to Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Haass was Director of Policy Planning for the Department of State where he was a close advisor to Secretary Colin Powell. The US Senate approved him to hold the rank of ambassador and Haass has served as U.S. Coordinator on policy for the future of Afghanistan and he was the lead U.S. Government official working in the peace process in Northern Ireland, for which he received the State Department’s Distinguished Honor Award.

From 1989 C.E. - 1993 C.E., Haass was Special Assistant to President George H. W. Bush and National Security Council Senior Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs. In 1991 C.E., Haass received the Presidential Citizens Medal for helping to develop and explain U.S. policy during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. Haass also served in various posts in the Departments of State (1981 C.E. - 1985 C.E.) and Department of Defense (1979 C.E. - 1980 C.E.). He was once also a Senate legislative aide.

Hallaj, Mansur al

Mansur al-Hallaj (b. 858 C.E. - d. March 26, 922 C.E.) was a Persian mystic, writer and teacher of Sufism. His full name was Abu al-Mughith al-Husayn ibn Mansur al-Hallaj.

His writings are very important not only to Sufis, but to all Muslims, make
use of his teachings, especially in terms of his identification as God — a central gnostic principle. His example is seen by some as one that should be emulated, especially his calm demeanor in the face of torture and his forgiving of his tormentors. Many honor him as an adept that came to realize the inherent divine nature of all men and women. While some theological universalists theorize that Hallaj was a reflection of God’s truth in much the same way Christians view Jesus, others continue to see him as a heretic.

Herzl, Theodor

Theodor Herzl (b. May 2, 1860 C.E. – d. July 3, 1904 C.E.) was an Austrian Jewish journalist who became the founder of modern political Zionism. His Hebrew personal names were Binyamin Ze’ev. Herzl is considered the seer who foresaw the creation of the State of Israel.

Herzl envisioned a Jewish state that was devoid of most aspects of Jewish culture. He did not envision the Jewish inhabitants of the state being religious, or even speaking Hebrew. Proponents of a Jewish cultural rebirth, such as Ahad Ha’am were critical of Altneuland.

Hussein (Jordan)

Hussein bin Talal (Arabic: Hussayn bin Talal; b. November 14, 1935 C.E. – d. February 7, 1999 C.E.) was the King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 1952 C.E. to 1999 C.E. He ascended after the 1952 C.E. abdication of his father, King Talal.

His reign was controversial. In 1994 C.E. King Hussein led negotiations to end the official state of war with the State of Israel resulting in the Israel-Jordan Treaty of Peace.

Hussein, Saddam

Saddam Hussein Abd al-Majid al-Tikriti, (b. April 28, 1937 C.E. at Al-Ajwa, Iraq, was President of Iraq from 1979 C.E. until his removal and capture after the 2003 C.E. invasion of Iraq. His mother, Subha Tulfah al-Mussallat, named her newborn son “Saddam”, which in Arabic means “one who confronts”. He never knew his father, Hussein ‘Abd al-Majid, who died or disappeared five months before Saddam was born.

A leading member of the Iraqi Ba’ath Party, which espoused secular pan-Arabism, economic modernization, and socialism, Saddam played a key role in the 1968 C.E. coup that brought the party to long-term power. As vice president under his cousin, the frail General Ahmed Bakr, Saddam tightly controlled conflict between the government and the armed forces by creating repressive security forces and cementing his own firm authority over the apparatuses of government.

As president, he ran an authoritarian government and maintained power
through the Iran-Iraq War (1980 C.E. – 1988 C.E.) and the Persian Gulf War (1991 C.E.) — periods that were devastating to Iraq, lowering living standards and human rights. Saddam's government repressed movements that it deemed threatening, particularly those from ethnic or religious groups that sought independence or autonomy.

While he remained a popular hero among many Arabs for standing up to his opponents in the Western world, such as the United States. Saddam was deposed by the U.S. and its allies during the 2003 C.E. U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. Captured by U.S. forces on December 13, 2003 C.E., he is standing trial for various human rights abuses before the Iraq Special Tribunal, established by the Iraqi Interim Government.

Ibrahim, Anwar

Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim (b. August 10, 1947 C.E.) is a former deputy prime minister and finance minister of Malaysia. Early in his career, he became a protégé of the former prime minister of Malaysia, Mahathir Muhammad, but subsequently emerged as the most prominent critic of Mathathir's administration. In 2000 C.E., he was sentenced in a highly controversial trial to nine years in prison for corruption and sodomy. However, in 2004 C.E., an appeals court reversed the conviction and he was released.

Anwar is both a controversial and charismatic figure in Malaysian politics. He has particularly been criticised in some quarters for being "all things to all people".

James, William

William James (b. January 11, 1842 C.E., New York – d. August 26, 1910 C.E., Chocorua, New Hampshire) was a pioneering psychologist and philosopher. He wrote influential books on the young science of psychology, psychology of religious experience and mysticism, and the philosophy of pragmatism.

Jarring, Gunnar

Gunnar Jarring (b. 12 October 1907 C.E. – d. 29 May 2002 C.E.) was a Swedish Turkologist and diplomat.

He held diplomatic positions in Teheran, Baghdad, and Addis Ababa, and was appointed Swedish minister to India in 1948. After several other diplomatic missions, he was Sweden's ambassador to the UN 1956 C.E. – 1958 C.E., and sat in the UN Security Council for the last two of those years. He was ambassador to the USA 1958 C.E. – 1964 C.E., and to the Soviet Union 1964 C.E. – 1967 C.E. After the 1967 C.E. Arab-Israeli War and the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 242, Jarring was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as a special envoy for the Middle East peace process, the so-called Jarring Mission. Jarring's
methods of negotiation were used unsuccessfully until the 1973 C.E. Arab-Israeli War.

Johnson, Lyndon B.

Lyndon Baines Johnson (b. August 27, 1908 C.E. at Gillespie County, Texas - d. January 22, 1973 C.E. at Johnson City, Texas), often referred to as LBJ, was the 36th President of the United States (November 22, 1963 C.E. – January 20, 1969 C.E.). After serving a long career in the U.S. Congress, Johnson became the thirty-seventh Vice President; in 1963 C.E. he succeeded to the presidency following Kennedy’s assassination. He was a major leader of the Democratic Party.

President Roosevelt showed a personal interest in the young Texan from the time he entered Congress. Johnson was immediately appointed to the Naval Affairs Committee, a job that carried high importance for a freshman congressman. He also worked for rural electrification and other improvements for his district. In 1941 C.E., Johnson ran for the U.S. Senate in a special election against the sitting governor of Texas, radio personality W. Lee “Pappy” O'Daniel. Though Johnson was expected to win, he was defeated by controversial late returns in an election marked by massive fraud on the part of both campaigns. During his last campaign, he promised that he would serve in the military should war break out; in December 1941 C.E., the U.S. entered World War II.

Under Johnson, the country made spectacular explorations of space in a program he had championed since its start and three astronauts successfully orbited the moon in December 1968 C.E.

Khatami, Muhammad

Seyyid Muhammad Khatami (b. September 29, 1943 C. E. in Ardakan city of Yazd province) is an Iranian intellectual, philosopher and political figure. He served as the fifth President of Iran from August 2, 1997 C.E. to August 2, 2005 C.E. and was succeeded by Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Khatami was elected president on May 23, 1997 C.E. and was re-elected on June 8, 2001 C.E. for a second term.

The day of his election, the 2nd of Khordad, 1376 A.H. in the Iranian calendar, is regarded as the starting date of “reforms” in Iran. His followers or anybody who was following that current are therefore usually known as the “2nd of Khordad Movement”.

The United Nations proclaimed the year 2001 C.E. as the United Nations’ Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations, as per Khatami’s suggestion. Pleading for the moralization of politics, Khatami argued that “The political translation of dialogue among civilizations would consist in arguing that culture, morality and art must prevail on politics.” Khatami has become an international personality, and he has gained much fame among intellectuals all over the world.
Khomeini, Ayatullah Ruhullah

Ayatullah Seyyid Ruhullah Khomeini (b. May 17, 1900 C.E. - d. June 3, 1989 C.E.) was an Iranian Shi'a Muslim cleric and Marja, and the political and spiritual leader of the 1979 C.E. Islamic Revolution which saw the overthrow of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the last Shah of Iran. Khomeini was considered a spiritual leader to many Muslims, and in Iran is officially addressed as Imam rather than Ayatullah, and his supporters also adhere to this convention. Khomeini is considered by many as one of the most influential men of the twentieth century C.E., and was named *Time* Magazine's “Man of the Year” in 1979 C.E.

Kissinger, Henry

Henry Alfred Kissinger (b. May 27, 1923 C.E. in Fürth, Germany, as Heinz Alfred Kissinger) is a Jewish-American diplomat and statesman. In 1938 C.E., fleeing Adolf Hitler's persecution, his family moved to New York. Kissinger was naturalized a U.S. citizen on June 19, 1943 C.E. He served as National Security Advisor and later Secretary of State in the Nixon administration, continuing in the latter position after Gerald Ford became President in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal.

An admirer of Realpolitik, Kissinger played a dominant role in United States foreign policy between 1969 C.E. and 1977 C.E. During this time, he pioneered the policy of détente that led to a significant relaxation in U.S.-Soviet tensions, including the SALT I strategic arms reduction talks, and played a crucial role in 1972 C.E. talks with Chinese foreign minister Zhou Enlai that concluded with the “opening” of China and the formation of a new strategic anti-Soviet Sino-American alliance.

Krauthammer, Charles

Charles Krauthammer (b. March 13, 1950 C.E. in New York City but raised in Montreal before returning to the United States), is a syndicated columnist who appears in the *Washington Post* and other publications. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1987 C.E. He frequently supports neoconservative positions in political issues.

In 1978 C.E., Krauthammer quit medical practice to direct planning in psychiatric research for the Jimmy Carter administration, and began contributing to the magazine, *The New Republic*. During the presidential campaign of 1980 C.E., he served as a speech writer to Vice President Walter Mondale. He also writes essays for *Time* and the *Weekly Standard* and is a regular member of “The Panel” on Fox News's Special Report with Brit Hume and often appears as a Fox News Contributor. He also writes for the Irish Times. Krauthammer is an American Jew.

Lenin, Vladimir

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (b. April 22, 1870 C.E. - d. January 21, 1924 C.E.),
was a Communist revolutionary of Russia, the leader of the Bolshevik party, the first Premier of the Soviet Union, and the main theorist of Leninism, which he described as an adaptation of Marxism to “the age of imperialism”.

Lewis, Bernard

Bernard Lewis (b. May 31, 1916 C.E.) is a widely read British-born American historian and the Cleveland E. Dodge Professor of Near Eastern Studies Emeritus at Princeton University.

Professor Lewis specializes in the history of Islam and the interaction between Islam and the West.

Born to middle-class Jewish parents in London, Lewis graduated from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, performed postgraduate studies at the University of Paris, returned in 1938 C.E. to the University of London as an assistant lecturer in Islamic History, once again at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). During the Second World War Lewis served in the British Army in the Royal Armoured Corps and Intelligence Corps, before being seconded to the Foreign Office. After the war he returned to SOAS and taught there until 1974 C.E., when he accepted a position at Princeton University, becoming an emeritus professor there upon his retirement in 1986 C.E. He has been a naturalized citizen of the United States since 1982 C.E.

Locke, John

John Locke is a seventeenth-century philosopher. John Locke (b. August 29, 1632 C.E. - d. October 28, 1704 C.E.) was an influential English philosopher and social contract theorist. He developed an alternative to the Hobbesian state of nature and argued a government could only be legitimate if it received the consent of the governed and protected the natural rights of life, liberty, and estate. If such a consent was not achieved, Locke argued in favor of a right of rebellion.

Locke’s ideas had an enormous influence on the development of political philosophy, and he is widely regarded as one of the most influential Enlightenment thinkers and contributors to liberal theory. His writings, along with those of the writings of many Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, contributed to the American revolutionaries as reflected in the American Declaration of Independence.

Locke has often been classified, along with David Hume and George Berkeley, as a British Empiricist.

Luther, Martin

Martin Luther (b. November 10, 1483 C.E. - d. February 18, 1546 C.E.) was a German theologian, an Augustinian monk, and an ecclesiastical reformer whose teachings inspired the Reformation and deeply influenced the doctrines and culture of the Lutheran and Protestant traditions. Luther’s call to the Church to
return to the teachings of the Bible led to the formation of new traditions within Christianity and to the Counter-Reformation, the Catholic reaction to these movements. His contributions to Western Civilization went beyond the life of the Christian Church. His translations of the Bible helped to develop a standard version of the German language and added several principles to the art of translation. His hymns inspired the development of congregational singing in Christianity. His marriage on June 13, 1525 C.E., to Katharina von Bora began a movement of clerical marriage within many Christian traditions.

Luther, Martin, King, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (b. January 15, 1929 C.E. – d. April 4, 1968 C.E.) was a Baptist minister and American political activist who was the most famous leader of the American civil rights movement. King won the Nobel Peace Prize before being assassinated in 1968 C.E. In 1977 C.E., King was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by Jimmy Carter. For his promotion of non-violence and racial equality, King is considered a peacemaker and martyr by many people around the world. Martin Luther King Day was established in his honor.

Marx, Karl

Karl Heinrich Marx (b. May 5, 1818 C.E. at Trier, Germany – d. March 14, 1883 C.E. at London) was an influential German philosopher, political economist, and revolutionary organizer of the International Workingmen’s Association. While Marx addressed a wide range of issues, he is most famous for his analysis of history in terms of class struggles, summed up in the opening line of the introduction to the Communist Manifesto: “The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggle”.

Marx’s thought was strongly influenced by:

➢ The dialectical method and historical orientation of Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel;
➢ The classical political economy of Adam Smith and David Ricardo;
➢ French socialist and sociological thought, in particular the thought of Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Mawdudi, Mawlana

Sayyid Abul Ala Mawdudi; often referred to as Mawlana Mawdudi (b. 1903 C.E. – d. 1979 C.E.) was one of the most influential Muslim theologians of the twentieth century C.E. and the founder of Jama‘at-i-Islami (Islamic Party), an Islamic political party in Pakistan. Mawlana Mawdudi’s philosophy, literary productivity and tireless activism contributed immensely to the development of Islamic political and social movements around the world. Mawlana Mawdudi’s ideas
profoundly influenced Sayyid Qutb of Egypt's Jam'iat al-Ikhwan al-Muslimun another leading Muslim philosopher of the twentieth century C.E. Together, Mawdudi and Qutb are considered the founding fathers of the global Islamic revival movement.

Mawlana Mawdudi's goal was to make Islam the supreme organizing principle for the social and political life of the Muslim ummah. The primary concept Mawlana Mawdudi's propounded was iqamat-i-din, literally "the establishment of religion". According to this principle, society and the state are totally subordinate to the authority of Islamic law as revealed in the Qur'an and practiced by Prophet Muhammad صلی الله علیه وسلّم.

Mawlana Mawdudi believed that the entire course of Islamic history was a continuous struggle between Islam and different brands of ignorance. Islam was not guaranteed victory in every battle, but Mawlana Mawdudi believed that if Muslims were true to their religion, Islam would eventually triumph over ignorance. In his incrementalist vision, the construction of an Islamic state originates from within pious individuals who transform society from within. First, Islam spurs individual transformation. Pious Muslims develop communities of faith. These communities, in turn, mass into ideological movements that generate peaceful social change. The end result is an Islamic society and true Islamic state based on the will of the people.

Mawdudi has been an intensely controversial figure. Criticism has come both from secularists and from within the Islamic religious establishment. Many of the 'ulama who were involved in the founding of the Jama'at-i-Islami left shortly afterwards in protest against Mawdudi's policies and leadership style. Both Barelwi and Deobandi 'ulama' have accused Mawdudi of having turned Islam upside down.

Mawdudi also has been accused by secularists and some Western thinkers of being a key source of the extremism.

**Mill, John Stuart**

John Stuart Mill (b. May 20, 1806 C.E. - d. May 8, 1873 C.E.), an English philosopher and political economist, was an influential liberal thinker of the nineteenth century C.E. He was an advocate of utilitarianism, the ethical theory first proposed by his godfather Jeremy Bentham.

John Stuart Mill was born in Pentonville, London, the oldest son of the Scottish philosopher and historian James Mill.

**Musharraf, Pervez**

Pervez Musharraf; (b. August 11, 1943 C.E. at Delhi, India) is the head of government of Pakistan. He took power on October 12, 1999 C.E. after a coup d'état and assumed the title of president of Pakistan on June 20, 2001 C.E., succeeding Rafiq Tarar.

Following the September 11, 2001 C.E. attacks in the United States,
Musharraf sided with the United States against the *Taliban* government in Afghanistan. Musharraf agreed to give the United States the use of three airbases for Operation Enduring Freedom. Secretary of State Colin Powell and other administration officials met with Musharraf. Musharraf's reversal of policy and help to the U.S. military was critical in the U.S. bombing that rapidly overcame the *Taliban* regime. Partner in the 'War on Terror'.

**Mutahhari, Ayatullah**

Ayatullah Murtaza Mutahhari (b. February 3, 1920 C.E. – d. May 1, 1979 C.E.) was an Iranian scholar, cleric, professor, and politician.

Mutahhari is considered among the important influences on the ideologies of the Islamic Republic, and was a co-founder of Hosseiniye-ye Ershad and the *Jame'e-ye Rowhāniyat-e Mobārez* (Militant Clergy Association). Mutahhari also was the person who formed the Council of Revolution of Iran, according to an order from Ayatullah Khomeini.

Mutahhari also wrote several books on Islam, Iran, and historical topics. He taught philosophy at Tehran University.

"Teachers Day" in Iran is celebrated on Ordibehesht 12 (2 May), the Persian date on which Mutahhari was assassinated by gunshot, from a member of the Forghan militia group.

Ayatullah Mutahhari, a Grand Ayatullah. He was taught in secret by Ayatullah Khomeini, during the shah's reign. Ayatollah Mutahhari came from a town called Mutahhar, in the outskirts of Tehran. He was very good in *fiqh* (jurisprudence). He taught many classes himself, and has many speeches available on CD.

**Netanyahu, Benjamin**

Benjamin Netanyahu : Hebrew transliteration written in English: Binyamin Netanyahu, nicknamed Bibi) (b. October 21, 1949 C.E., Tel Aviv) was the 9th Prime Minister of Israel (June, 1996 C.E. - July, 1999 C.E.).

Leader of the conservative Likud party, he was Prime Minister from June, 1996 C.E. to July, 1999 C.E. He is the first (and to date only) Prime Minister of Israel to be born after the creation of the state. He was Finance Minister of Israel until August 9, 2005 C.E., when his resignation letter came into force. He resigned in protest of the Gaza Disengagement Plan advocated by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Netanyahu retook the Likud leadership on December 20th, 2005 C.E.

After a brief career in business, Netanyahu was appointed Deputy Chief of Mission at the Israeli Embassy in Washington in 1982 C.E. Subsequently, he became Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, serving from 1984 C.E. to 1988 C.E. He was elected to the Knesset in 1988 C.E. and served in the governments led by Yitzhak Shamir from 1988 C.E. to 1992 C.E. Shamir retired from politics shortly
after Likud's defeat in the 1992 C.E. elections. In 1993 C.E., for the first time the party held a primary election to select its leader, and Netanyahu was victorious, defeating Binyamin Ze'ev Begin, son of the late Prime Minister Menachem Begin, and veteran politician David Levy.

Nixon, Richard M.

Richard Milhous Nixon (b. January 9, 1913 C.E. at Yorba Linda, California – d. April 22, 1994 C.E. at New York) was the 37th President of the United States, serving from January 20, 1969 C.E. – August 9, 1974 C.E. He was also the 36th Vice President (1953 C.E. – 1961 C.E.) serving under Dwight D. Eisenhower. Nixon redefined the office of Vice President, making it for the first time a high visibility platform and base for a presidential candidacy. He is the only person to have been elected twice to the Vice Presidency and twice to the Presidency, and the only president to have resigned that office. His resignation came in the face of imminent impeachment related to the Watergate scandal.

Nixon is noted for his diplomatic foreign policy, especially détente with the Soviet Union and China, and ending the Vietnam War. He is also noted for his middle-of-the-road domestic policy that combined conservative rhetoric and, in many cases, liberal action, as in his environmental policy.

Pahlavi, Muhammad Reza (Shah of Iran)

Muhammad Reza Shah Pahlavi (b. October 26, 1919 C.E., Tehran – d. July 27, 1980 C.E., Cairo), styled His Imperial Majesty, Shahanshah (King of Kings), and Aryamehr (Light of the Aryans), was the Shah of Iran from 1941 C.E. to 1979 C.E.

With Iran’s great oil wealth, Mohammad Reza Shah became the pre-eminent leader of the Middle East, and self-styled “Guardian” of the Persian Gulf. He later abolished the multi-party system of government so that he could rule through a one-party state under the Rastakhiz (Resurrection) Party in autocratic fashion, which he claimed was a response, among other things, to the then Soviet Union’s support of Iranian Communist militias and parties, particularly the Tudeh Party. The Shah also authorized the creation of the secret police force, SAVAK (National Organization for Information and Security), infamous for its ruthless persecution of dissidents, and is believed to have overseen its operation personally.

His policies led to strong economic growth during the 1960s and 1970s but at the same time, opposition to his autocratic pro-Western rule increased. His good relations with Israel and the United States and his active support for ‘women’s rights’ were moreover a reason for fundamentalist Islamic groups to attack his policies.

The exiled monarch had become unpopular in much of the world, especially in the liberal West, ironically his original backers and those who had most to lose
from his downfall. He travelled from country to country in his second exile seeking what he hoped would be a temporary residence. First he went to Egypt, and got an invitation and warm welcoming from president Anwar al-Sadat. He later lived in Morocco, the Bahamas, and Mexico. But his non-Hodgkin's lymphoma began to grow worse, and required immediate and sophisticated treatment. He left the United States and lived for a short time in Panama. Finally he went back to Egypt where he passed away on July 27, 1980 C.E.

Pearson, Lester

Lester Bowles “Mike” Pearson (b. April 23, 1897 C.E. - d. December 27, 1972 C.E.) was a Canadian statesman, diplomat and politician who was made a Nobel Laureate in 1957 C.E. He served as the 14th Prime Minister of Canada from April 22, 1963 C.E., to April 20, 1968 C.E., during which period he led two back-to-back minority governments following elections in 1963 C.E. and 1965 C.E.

During his time as Prime Minister, Pearson’s minority governments introduced universal health care, student loans, bilingualism, the Canada Pension Plan, and Canada’s flag. Combined with his groundbreaking work at the United Nations, and in international diplomacy, Pearson can safely be regarded as one of the most influential Canadians of the twentieth century C.E.

Peres, Shimon

Shimon Peres (b. Shimon Perske on August 16, 1923 C.E. in Wieniawa Poland, (now Vishniev in Belarus and immigrated with his family to Israel in 1934 C.E.), is an Israeli politician, who was a supporter of the Labour Party until December 2005 C.E., but still holding a status of member. He served as 8th Prime Minister of Israel from 1984 C.E. - 1986 C.E. and 1995 C.E. - 1996 C.E. and Foreign Affairs Minister of Israel from 2001 C.E. - 2002 C.E., and became Vice Premier in a coalition under Ariel Sharon at the start of 2005 C.E. In 1994 C.E. Peres won the Nobel Peace Prize together with Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat, for their efforts towards peace which culminated in the Oslo Accords. Peres has never won a national election, despite having won numerous Labour Party primaries. Peres recently left the Labour Party and declared his support of the new Kadima party, led by Ariel Sharon.

In 1947 C.E., he was conscripted into the Haganah (predecessor of the Israeli Defense Forces) and was appointed by David Ben-Gurion to be responsible for personnel and arms purchases. In 1952 C.E., he was appointed Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Defense and in 1953 C.E., aged 29, he became the youngest ever Director General of the Ministry of Defense. He was involved in acquiring weapons and strategic alliances for the young state of Israel. Peres’ efforts went superbly well with France as he managed to acquire the advanced Dassault Mirage III French jet fighter, the Dimona nuclear reactor and the tri-national agreement with France and the United Kingdom during the 1956 C.E. Suez Crisis.
In 1997 C.E. he founded the Peres Center for Peace.

Plato

Plato (b. 427 BC – d. 347 BC) was an immensely influential ancient Greek philosopher, a student of Socrates, writer of philosophical dialogues, and founder of the Academy in Athens where Aristotle studied.

Plato lectured extensively at the Academy, and wrote on many philosophical issues, dealing especially in politics, ethics, metaphysics and epistemology. The most important writings of Plato are his dialogues, although a handful of epigrams also survived.

Plato was doubtless strongly influenced by Socrates’ teachings, so many of the ideas presented, at least in his early works, were likely borrowings.

Powell, Colin

General Colin Luther Powell, United States Army (Ret.) (b. April 5, 1937 C.E.) was the 65th United States Secretary of State, serving from January 20, 2001 C.E. to January 23, 2005 C.E. under President George W. Bush. Nominated by Bush on December 16, 2000 C.E. and unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate, Powell became the highest ranking African American government official in the history of the United States (now having been tied by his successor, Condoleezza Rice). As a general in the United States Army, Powell also served as National Security Advisor (1987 C.E. – 1989 C.E.) and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (1989 C.E. – 1993 C.E.).

After September 11, 2001 C.E. Powell’s job became of critical importance in managing America’s relationships with foreign countries in order to secure a stable coalition in the ‘War on Terrorism’.

Quayle, Dan


In 1976 C.E., Quayle was elected to the U.S. Congress from Indiana’s Fourth Congressional District, defeating an eight-term incumbent Democrat. He won reelection in 1978 C.E. by the greatest percentage margin ever achieved to that date in the northeast Indiana district. In 1980 C.E., at age 33, Quayle became the youngest person ever elected to the U.S. Senate from the State of Indiana, defeating three-term incumbent Democrat Birch Bayh. Making Indiana political history again, Quayle was reelected to the Senate in 1986 C.E. with the largest margin ever achieved to that date by a candidate in a statewide Indiana race.
Qutb, Sayyid

Sayyid Qutb (b. 9 October 1906 C.E. - d. 29 August 1966 C.E.) was an Egyptian intellectual, author, and Islamist associated with the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood. He is best known for his theoretical work on redefining the role of Islamic fundamentalism in social and political change. His extensive Quranic commentary Fi zilal al-Qurân has contributed significantly to modern perceptions of Islamic concepts such as jihad, jahiliyyah, and ummah.

One of Qutb’s main ideas was applying the term jahiliyyah, which originally referred to humanity’s state of ignorance before the revelation of Qurân, to modern-day Muslim societies. In his view, turning away from Islamic law and Islamic values under the influence of European imperialism had left the Muslim world in a condition of debased ignorance, similar to that of the jahiliyyah (pre-Islamic era). In defining the Muslim world as in a state of jahiliyyah, Qutb concluded that all non-Islamic states were illegitimate, including that of Egypt.

The influence of Qutb and his work extends across the whole spectrum of Islamism. Alongside notable Islamists like Mawlana Mawdudi and Hasan al-Banna, Qutb is often considered one of the most influential Islamic activists of the modern era. He is recognized for his application of Islamic ideology to current social and political problems, such as Westernization, modernization, and political reform. Qutb’s work also expanded many themes now common in Western discourses on Islamism, including the theory of inevitable ideological conflict between “Islam and the West”, the notion of a transnational ummah, and the comprehensive application of jihad in various spiritual, political, and social contexts.

In terms of politics, Qutb left a significant mark on the al-Ikhwan al-Muslimun, which today still exists and is actively involved in Egyptian politics. His theoretical work on non-violent Islamic advocacy, including emphasis on social justice and education, has become a cornerstone of the contemporary Brotherhood. His interpretation of jihad and its application for societal change has influenced many later Islamist activists, both violent and non-violent. Finally, Qutb’s imprisonment and execution has led many to consider him a ‘martyr’.

Qutb’s written works, including his most controversial, are still widely available and have been translated into many Western languages. Qutb’s best known work, Ma‘alim fi ‘l-Tariq (Milestones), is regarded by some as the beginning of modern political Islam. However, the majority of Qutb’s theory can be found in his Qurânîc commentary Fi zilal al-Qurân (In the Shade of the Quran).

Rabin, Yitzhak

Yitzhak Rabin (or Yitschak Rabin) (or Yitzchak Rabin), (b. March 1, 1922 C.E. Jerusalem (the Palestine – formal British Mandate of Palestine) – d. November 4, 1995 C.E. Jerusalem) was an Israeli politician and general. He was the fifth Prime Minister of Israel from 1974 C.E. until 1977 C.E. and again from 1992 C.E. until his
assassination in 1995 C.E. by Yigal Amir, a right-wing activist who had strenuously opposed Rabin's signing of the Oslo Accords. He was the first local-born Prime Minister of Israel, the only Prime Minister to be assassinated and the second to die in office (following Levi Eshkol).

Following his retirement from the Israel Defense Forces, he became a diplomat, serving as ambassador to the United States beginning in 1968 C.E. In 1973 C.E., he was elected to the Knesset as a member of the Labor Party, and was appointed Minister of Labor.

Rafsanjani, Ali Akbar Hashmi

Ali Akbar Hashmi Rafsanjani born as Hashemi Bahramani (b. August 25, 1934 C.E.) is one of the most influential Iranian politicians, and is currently serving as the Chairman of the Expediency Discernment Council of Iran.

He served as President of Iran from 1989 C.E. to 1997 C.E. In 2005 C.E. he tried to win a third term in office, but lost on the second ballot to Tehran Mayor Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in the 2005 C.E. Iranian presidential election.

Before the revolution Rafsanjani was an activist against Shah's regime, and has been jailed during that period. Rafsanjani was a key member of Iran's Revolutionary Council at the beginning of the new Islamic Republic.

Rafsanjani became the first head for the new Iranian Parliament after the beginning of the Islamic Republic and served until 1989 C.E. and was the first president of Iran to step down officially after finishing his period.

Reagan, Ronald W.


Reagan beat incumbent President Jimmy Carter to win the election in a 1980 C.E. electoral college landslide. Ronald Regan was originally a Democrat, supporting Franklin D. Roosevelt and his New Deal. He gradually became a staunch social and fiscal conservative, and, in 1976 C.E., said “fascism was really the basis of the New Deal”.

Reagan holds the record as the longest lived U.S. President, at 93 years and 120 days. Currently ill with pneumonia, Gerald Ford will overtake Reagan's record if he lives to or beyond November 11, 2006 C.E. Reagan also holds the record as the oldest-elected president, and the oldest president to serve.
Rice, Condoleezza

Condoleezza Rice (b. November 14, 1954 C.E. at Birmingham, Alabama) is the 66th and current United States Secretary of State (January 26, 2005 C.E. – present), and the second in the administration of President George W. Bush. She replaced Colin Powell on January 26, 2005 C.E.

Condoleezza Rice was previously Bush’s National Security Advisor during his first term (2001 C.E. – 2005 C.E.). Before joining the Bush administration, she was a Professor of Political Science at Stanford University and served as Provost from 1993 C.E. to 1999 C.E.

Rice has served on the board of directors for the Chevron Corporation, the Charles Schwab Corporation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Transamerica Corporation, Hewlett Packard, The Carnegie Corporation, The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Rand Corporation, and KQED, public broadcasting for San Francisco. She was also on the Board of Trustees of the University of Notre Dame, the International Advisory Council of J.P. Morgan, and the San Francisco Symphony Board of Governors.

She also headed Chevron’s committee on public policy until she resigned on January 15, 2001 C.E., to become National Security Advisor to President George W. Bush.

Rice has risen to become one of the most powerful female politicians in US history. As a result, supporters have touted a future Vice Presidential or Presidential candidacy as a possibility.

Rockefeller, David

David Rockefeller, (b. 15 June 1915 C.E.), is an American banker, and the son and grandson, respectively, of oil tycoons John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and John D. Rockefeller.

He was born in New York City, graduated from Harvard in 1936 C.E., studied for a year at the London School of Economics, and received his Ph.D. from The University of Chicago in 1940 C.E. While at Chase he founded the development project for the World Trade Center, which was strongly supported by his brother, New York governor, Nelson Rockefeller.

He was Vice Director of the Council on Foreign Relations (1949 C.E. – 1985 C.E.), Vice President (1950 C.E. – 1970 C.E.), and Chairman (1970 C.E. – 1985 C.E.), founder and Honorary Chairman of the Trilateral Commission as well as attending some of the secretive Bilderberg Group meetings.

He has acted as spokesman for the U.S. business community on several occasions. His Memoirs were published in 2002 C.E. In 2003 C.E., he served as "honorary member" of the Jury for the World Trade Center Site Memorial
Competition.

**Roosevelt, Franklin D.**

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (b. January 30, 1882 C.E. – d. April 12, 1945 C.E.), 32nd President of the United States (March 4, 1933 C.E. – April 12, 1945 C.E.), is best known for his leading the U.S. through the Great Depression via his New Deal, his building a powerful political coalition, the New Deal Coalition, that dominated American politics for decades, and for playing a significant role in a grand coalition that defeated Nazi Germany, Italy and the Empire of Japan in World War II and created the United Nations.

Born to wealth and privilege, he overcame a crippling illness to place himself at the head of the forces of reform. Universally called FDR, he was both loved and hated in his day, but is now considered by many to be in the top tier of American presidents.

He was elected to four successive terms, twice as many as any other president. In response to his lengthy presidency, Congress passed the Twenty-second Amendment to the United States Constitution limiting the number of terms a president may serve to two and making it very unlikely that his record presidency of over twelve years will ever be broken.

**Rosenstock, Eugen**

Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy (b. 1888 C.E. – d. 1973 C.E. ) was a social philosopher, who taught at Dartmouth College from 1935 C.E. to 1957 C.E. He was born in Berlin, Germany, the son of a Jewish banker.

At 16 years old, he converted to Christianity, and remained a devout Christian for the rest of his life. He taught law at Leipzig University from 1912 C.E. to 1914 C.E. In 1914 C.E., he married Margrit Huessy, and according to Swiss custom, added her surname to his own. He may be best known as the close friend and correspondent of Franz Rosenzweig. Their exchange of letters is considered by social scholars to be indispensable in the study of the modern encounter of Jews with Christianity. He was a German army officer during World War I, serving at the front, near Verdun. His experience during the war had a profound impact on him and was a decisive influence on much of his later work.

**Rumsfeld, Donald H.**

Donald Henry Rumsfeld (b. July 9, 1932 C.E. at Evanston, Illinois) is a US politician currently serving as the 21st United States Secretary of Defense since January 20, 2001 C.E., under President George W. Bush. He is the oldest person to have held that position, and was also the youngest when he served as the 13th Secretary of Defense from November 20, 1975 C.E. – January 20, 1977 C.E. under President Gerald Ford. Rumsfeld also served four terms in the United States House
of Representatives and as an official in numerous federal commissions and councils.

In 1977 C.E., Rumsfeld was awarded the nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Rumsfeld was a founder and active member of the Project for the New American Century, whose goal is to "promote American global leadership" and which in September 2000 C.E. proposed to invade Iraq. He signed the 1998 C.E. PNAC Letter sent to President Bill Clinton advocating the use of force in Iraq to "protect our vital interests in the gulf".

Rushdie, Salman

Salman Rushdie (b. Ahmed Salman Rushdie, on June 19, 1947 C.E., in Bombay, India) is an Indian-born British essayist and author of fiction, most of which is set on the Indian subcontinent. He grew up in Mumbai (then Bombay) attended Rugby School, Warwickshire, then King's College, Cambridge in England. Following an advertising career with Ayer Barker, he became a full-time writer. His narrative style, blending myth and fantasy with real life, has been described as magic realism.

His writing career began with Grimus, a fantastic tale, part-science fiction, which was generally ignored by the book-buying public and literary critics. His next novel, Midnight's Children, however, catapulted him to literary fame and is often considered his best work to date. It also significantly shaped the course that Indian writing in English was to follow over the next decade. This work was later awarded the 'Booker of Bookers' prize in 1993 C.E. – after being selected as the best novel to be awarded the Booker Prize in its first 25 years.

Midnight's Children receives accolades for being Rushdie's best, most flowing and inspiring work, but none of Rushdie's post-1989 C.E. works has had the same critical reception or caused the same controversy as The Satanic Verses.

India banned The Satanic Verses on October 5, 1988 C.E.; South Africa banned it on November 24, 1988; and Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Somalia, Bangladesh, Sudan, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Qatar followed within weeks. On January 14, 1989 C.E. the novel was the subject of a book burning event in Bradford, England. On February 12, 1989 C.E. five people were shot and killed by the police during a protest in Islamabad.

On February 14, 1989 C.E., a fatwa requiring Rushdie's execution was proclaimed on Radio Tehran by Ayatullah Ruhullah Khomeini, the leader of Iran, calling the book "blasphemous against Islam". As the novel also suggested that Rushdie no longer believed in Islam, Khomeini also condemned him for apostasy, which according to the Hadith is punishable by death. Khomeini indicated that it was the responsibility of all "zealous Muslims" to execute Rushdie and the publishers who were aware of its concepts. On February 24 1989 C.E., Khomeini offered a U.S.$ 3 million bounty for the death of Rushdie, who was then forced to live for a time under British-financed security.
In early 2005 C.E., Khomeini's fatwa against Rushdie was reaffirmed by Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatullah Ali Khamenei, in a message to Muslim pilgrims making the annual pilgrimage to Makkah. Iran has rejected requests to withdraw the fatwa.

Russel, Bertrand

Bertrand Arthur William Russell, 3rd Earl Russell, (b. 18 May 1872 C.E. – d. 2 February 1970 C.E.), was an influential British logician, philosopher, and mathematician, working mostly in the twentieth century C.E. A prolific writer, Bertrand Russell was also a populariser of philosophy and a commentator on a large variety of topics, ranging from very serious issues to the mundane. Continuing a family tradition in political affairs, he was a prominent liberal as well as a socialist and anti-war activist for most of his long life. Millions looked up to Russell as a prophet of the creative and rational life; at the same time, his stances on many topics were extremely controversial.

Born at the height of Britain's economic and political ascendancy, he died of influenza nearly a century later when the British empire had all but vanished; its power dissipated in two victorious, but debilitating world wars. As one of the world's best-known intellectuals, Russell's voice carried enormous moral authority, even into his early 90s. Among his other political activities, Russell was a vigorous proponent of nuclear disarmament and an outspoken critic of the American war in Vietnam.

In 1950 C.E., Russell was made a Nobel Laureate in Literature "in recognition of his varied and significant writings in which he champions humanitarian ideals and freedom of thought".

Schussel, Wolfgang

Wolfgang Schüssel (b. on June 7, 1945 C.E. in Vienna) is a Christian Democratic Austrian politician. He has been Chancellor of Austria since 2000 C.E. The first half of 2006 C.E. he is also President of the European Council.

Schüssel was secretary of the parliamentary group of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) from 1968 C.E. to 1975 C.E. From 1975 C.E. to 1991 C.E. he was Secretary General of the Austrian Business Federation, a sub-organisation of the Christian Democratic People's Party.

Schüssel succeeded Tony Blair as European President on January 1, 2006 C.E. In the presence of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, he promised to lead the European Union "Hand in Hand" with Germany, and Merkel promised that Germany would do everything to "help" Austria during its presidency and make it a success. Schüssel also stated that Austria needed "some friends of the presidency". This led to Brussels diplomats describing the Austrian presidency as "the small German presidency", according to French newspaper Le Figaro.
Scowcroft, Brent

Brent Scowcroft (b. March 19, 1925 C.E. in Ogden, Utah) was the United States National Security Advisor under Presidents Gerald Ford and George H. W. Bush and a Lieutenant General in the United States Air Force. He also served as Military Assistant to President Richard Nixon and as Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs in the Nixon and Ford administrations. He also served as Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board under President George W. Bush from 2001 C.E. to 2005 C.E.

Prior to joining the Bush administration, Scowcroft was Vice Chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc. He is the founder and president of 'The Forum for International Policy', a think tank. Scowcroft is also president of 'The Scowcroft Group, Inc.', an international business consulting firm. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Scowcroft was a leading Republican critic of U.S. policy towards Iraq before and after the 2003 C.E. invasion of Iraq. Scowcroft supported the invasion of Afghanistan as a "direct response" to terrorism.

Shariati, Ali

Dr. Ali Shariati (b. 1933 C.E. – d. 1977 C.E.) was an Iranian sociologist, well known and respected for his works in the field of sociology of religion.

In his years at the Teacher's Training College, Shariati came into contact with young people who were from the less privileged economic classes of the society, and for the first time saw the poverty and hardship that existed in Iran during that period. He attempted to explain and provide solutions for the problems faced by Muslim societies through traditional Islamic principles interwoven with and understood from the point of view of modern sociology and philosophy. Shariati was also deeply influenced by Moulana Rumi and Muhammad Iqbal.

Shariati's lectures at the Hosseimye Irshad Institute proved to be a hugely popular success amongst his students and as a result word of mouth spread rapidly throughout all economic sectors of the society, including among the middle and upper classes where interest in Shariati's teachings began to grow immensely.

The Imperial authorities soon took a special interest in Shariati's continued success, and the police soon had him, as well as many of his students, under arrest. Widespread pressure from the populace and international outcry eventually led to the end of his eighteen month prison term, and he was released on March 20, 1975 C.E. under special circumstances whereby he would not be allowed to teach, publish, or hold gatherings, whether public or private.

Shariati rejected these conditions and decided to leave the country for England. Three weeks later, on June 19, 1977 C.E., he was murdered. It has been speculated that he was killed by SAVAK agents after an agreement with British
Shariati is considered to be one of the most influential philosophical leaders of pre-revolutionary Iran and the impact and popularity of his thought continues to be felt throughout Iranian society many years later, especially amongst those who fought for the creation of the Islamic Republic.

Sharon, Ariel

Ariel "Arik" Sharon (b. February 27, 1928 C.E. at Kfar Malal) is the eleventh and current Prime Minister of Israel, serving since February 2001 C.E. A long-serving Israeli political and military leader, he was a founding member and former head of the Likud party, and previously served for over thirty years in the Israeli Defense Forces, rising to the rank of Major General, and achieving fame within Israel for his actions in the 1967 C.E. Six Day War and the 1973 C.E. Yom Kippur War. In late 2005 C.E., he broke from Likud which he helped form and founded a new party, Kadima. It is the first time in recent Israeli history that the Knesset race is between three major parties (Kadima, Likud, and Labor) as opposed to the usual two (Likud and Labor).

Sharon has been a highly controversial figure, both in and outside Israel. Supporters view him as a leader who strove to establish peace without sacrificing Israel's security. Many Israelis consider him a 'war hero' who helped defend the country during some of its greatest struggles. Some critics refer to him as "the Butcher of Beirut" and have sought to prosecute him as a war criminal for alleged crimes related to the Sabra and Shatila massacre during the 1982 Lebanon War, for which the Kahan Commission held him indirectly responsible.

On January 4, 2006 C.E., Sharon suffered a massive hemorrhagic stroke, was declared "temporarily incapable of discharging his powers", and Ehud Olmert, the Deputy Prime Minister, was officially confirmed as the Acting Prime Minister of Israel. Sharon is currently undergoing medical treatment.

Ariel Sharon is a known ardent Zionist. Sharon was an ardent opponent of certain Israeli peace efforts with Arabs. Yet, he also has endorsed other peace efforts like, Prime Minister Sharon signed on to the Road Map peace plan, participated in the negotiations with the Palestinians leading to the Wye Agreement, turned the Gaza Strip over to Palestinian sovereignty, and openly endorsed a Palestinian state.

Shultz, George P.

George Pratt Shultz (b. December 13, 1920 C.E.) served as the United States Secretary of Labor from 1969 C.E. to 1970 C.E., as the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury from 1972 C.E. to 1974 C.E., and as the U.S. Secretary of State from 1982 C.E. to 1989 C.E.

Shultz is a member of the Hoover Institution, American Enterprise Institute, the New Atlantic Initiative, the Committee for the Liberation of Iraq and
the Committee on the Present Danger. He also serves on the board of directors for the Bechtel Corporation, Gilead Sciences, and Charles Schwab Corporation.

George Shultz left office on January 20, 1989 C.E. but continues to be a strategist for the Republican Party. He was an advisor for the George W. Bush 2000 C.E. Campaign, and senior member of the so-called "Vulcans", a group of policy mentors for Bush which also included among its members Dick Cheney, Paul Wolfowitz and Condoleezza Rice. His most senior advisor and confidant is former ambassador Charles Hill, who holds dual positions at the Hoover Institution and Yale University.

Siddiqui, Kalim

Dr Kalim Siddiqui (b. 1931 C.E. – d. 1996 C.E.) was an intellectual and an activist of the global Islamic movement. Dr Kalim Siddiqui was one of the leading intellectuals and Islamic movement activists of the modern era. As Founder and Director of the Muslim Institute, London, he played a leading role in developing the political understanding and thought of the contemporary Islamic movement, and in globalizing the movement after the Islamic Revolution in Iran. He also founded and led the Muslim Parliament of Great Britain, which was a radical new sort of Muslim community institution when it was inaugurated in 1992 C.E.

Dr Kalim Siddiqui combined intellectual insight and understanding with movement activism and political leadership. Intellectually, his major contribution was to the political thought of the Islamic movement, in a series of papers published in the 1970s and 1980s, which presented radical and revolutionary ideas in a way which ordinary Muslims found accessible and easy to understand. His intellectual work culminated in his paper Processes of Error, Deviation, Correction and Convergence in Muslim Political Thought (1989 C.E.) and his last book, Stages of Islamic Revolution (1996 C.E.). When he passed away in South Africa in 1996 C.E., he was working on a new project on political dimensions of the Seerah. His final paper on this subject was published after his death by the Institute of Contemporary Islamic Thought (ICIT).

The two major institutions he founded and worked through, the Muslim Institute, London, and the Muslim Parliament of Great Britain, both declined after his death. However, the ICIT was established in 1998 C.E. by some of his closest colleagues and associates, including Zafar Bangash (now Director of the ICIT), Imam Muhammed al-Asi, and his son, Iqbal Siddiqui, to continue his intellectual work for the Islamic movement.

Straw, Jack

Jack Straw (probably the same person as Rackstraw) was one of the three leaders (together with John Ball and Wat Tyler) of the Peasants' Revolt or Great Rising of 1381 C.E., a major event in the history of Britain.
Little is known of the three leaders. It has been suggested that Jack Straw may have been a preacher, but his name may suggest a link to thatching. Some have suggested that the name may have been a pseudonym for Wat Tyler or other peasants' leaders.

According to information in the church of St Mary in Great Baddow, in Essex, England, Jack Straw led an ill-fated crowd from the churchyard to one of the risings.

The British politician John Whitaker Straw (born 1946 C.E.) adopted the name Jack Straw after the rebel leader.

**Suhrawardi**

Persian philosopher or Shihabuddin Yahya al-Suhrawardi (b. 1153 C.E. in North-West-Iran; d. 1191 C.E. in Aleppo) was the founder of School of Illumination, one of the most important Islamic doctrine in philosophy. He should be distinguished from Abul-Najib al-Suhrawardi and his paternal nephew Abu Hafs Umar al-Suhrawardi (d. 1234 C.E.) who were also important Sufis.

His life spanned a period of less than forty years in the middle of twelfth century C.E., produced a series of highly assured works that established him as the founder of new school of philosophy, *hikmat-al-Ishraq* (the school of Illumination).

Also arising out of the peripatetic philosophy developed by Ibn Sina, Suhrawardi illuminationism philosophy is critical of several of the positions taken by Ibn Sina, and radically departs from the latter through the creation of a symbolic language (which is manly derived from ancient Iranian culture or *Farhang-e-Khosravani*) to give expression to his *hikmah*.

The fundamental constituent of Suhrawardi’s philosophy is pure immaterial light, than which is nothing is more manifest, and which unfold from the light of lights in emanationist through the descending order of the light of ever diminishing intensity; through complex interaction, then in turn give rise to horizontal arrays of lights, similar in concept to Platonic Forms, which govern the species of mundane reality.

Suhrawardi also elaborated the idea of an independent intermediary world, *alam-i-mithal* (the imaginal world). His views have exerted a powerful influence down to this day, particularly through Mulla Sadra’s adoption of his concept of intensity and gradation to existence, wherein he (Mulla Sadra) combined peripatetic and illuminationist description of reality.

He is sometimes given the honorific *Shaykh al-Ishraq* or “Master of Illumination”. He was executed on a charge of heresy, and sometimes is called *Maqtul*, the slain.
Sununu, John H.

John Henry Sununu (b. July 2, 1939 C.E.) is a former Governor of New Hampshire (1983 C.E. – 1989 C.E.) and former White House Chief of Staff under President George H. W. Bush. Sununu was born in Havana, Cuba, and is of Lebanese Christian ancestry.

He was the first White House Chief of Staff for George H. W. Bush, serving from 1989 C.E. to 1991 C.E. Sununu was known as an enforcer and was very harsh. He made many enemies from both within and outside the administration and the Republican Party.

Sununu became New Hampshire’s 93rd Governor on January 6, 1983 C.E., and served three consecutive terms. He served as chairman of the Coalition of Northeastern Governors, the Republican Governors Association and, in 1987 C.E., the National Governors Association. Sununu co-hosted CNN’s nightly “Crossfire”, from March 1992 C.E. until February 1998 C.E.

Sununu is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a member of the Board of Trustees for the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation. He is married to the former Nancy Hayes, and they have eight children including U.S. Senator John E. Sununu.

Taymiyyah, Ibn

Abu al-Abbas Taqi al-Din Ahmad ibn Abd al-Salaam ibn Abdullah ibn Taymiyyah al-Harrani (b. January 22, 1263 C.E. – d. 1328 C.E.), was an Islamic scholar born in Harran, located in what is now Turkey, close to the Syrian border. He lived during the troubled times of the Mongol invasions.

He was an outspoken and controversial scholar. Ibn Taymiyyah asserted his right to *ijtibad*, or independent judgment; he denounced the Muslims of his time as given to *shirk* (idolatry) and *bid‘ah*. He denounced what he believed to be the errors of Sufism; he criticized many Sufi practices. He is also said to have preached that resistance to the Mongol ruler Ghazan Khan was *jihad*, required of all faithful Muslims, even though the khan had ostensibly converted to Islam.

The Mamluk rulers of Egypt, of which Damascus was a dependency, considered his views heretical and dangerous. Ibn Taymiyyah was repeatedly imprisoned by the Cairo authorities. His last fifteen years were spent in Damascus, where he had many disciples. He died behind prison walls, in 1328 C.E.

Some of his students, such as Ibn al-Qayyim, Ibn Kathir, al-Dhahabi, and Ibn Nasir al-Din, are still remembered, but he cannot be said to have founded a school in his lifetime.

Centuries later, in the eighteenth century C.E., an Arabian scholar named Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab studied the works of Ibn Taymiyyah’s and aimed to revive his teachings. ‘Abd al-Wahhab acquired a large following thanks to his
association with the Saudi royal family. Ibn Taymiyyah’s works became the basis of the contemporary Wahhabi or Salafi school of thought in Sunni Islam.

Toynbee, Arnold J.

Arnold Joseph Toynbee (b. April 14, 1889 C.E. – d. October 22, 1975 C.E.) was a British historian whose twelve-volume analysis of the rise and fall of civilizations, *A Study of History*, 1934 C.E. – 1961 C.E., was a synthesis of global history, a metahistory based on universal rhythms of rise, flowering and decline.

Toynbee articulated a general theory of history and civilization. It has found little response in the discipline of comparative history that preoccupied him.

He worked for the Intelligence department of the British Foreign Office during World War I, and served as a delegate to the Paris Peace Conference in 1919. With his research assistant, Veronica M. Boulter, who was to become his second wife, he was co-editor of the RIIA’s annual *Survey of International Affairs*. During World War II, he again worked for the Foreign Office and attended the postwar peace talks.

Turabi, Hassan

Dr. Hassan ‘Abd Allah al-Turabi, commonly called Hassan al-Turabi (sometimes transliterated Hassan al-Tourabi), is a religiopolitical leader in Sudan, who may have been instrumental in institutionalizing Islamic *shari’ah* law in the northern part of the country.

The Appendix of the 9/11 Commission Report calls Turabi “Sudan’s longtime hard-line ideological leader and Speaker of the country’s National Assembly during the 1990s”. Turabi was leader of the National Islamic Front, a powerful political faction in Sudan.

After graduating, he returned to Sudan and became a member of the Islamic Charter Front, an offshoot of the Sudanese branch of the Muslim Brotherhood. Within a five year period, the Islamic Charter Front became a large political group that identified Al-Turabi as its Secretary general in 1964 C.E. Al-Turabi remained with the Islamic Charter Front until 1969 C.E., when Jaafar Nimeiry assumed power in a coup. The members of Islamic Charter Front were arrested, and Turabi spent six years in custody and three in exile in Libya.

Velayati, Ali Akbar

Ali Akbar Velayati (b. June 25, 1945 C.E. in Shemiran) is an Iranian politician and a pediatrician, currently an Advisor in International Affairs to the Supreme Leader. He was the Foreign Minister of Iran for about 16 years (December 15, 1981 C.E. – August 20, 1997 C.E.), making him the longest-serving Foreign Minister in Iranian history.

Velayati served for two terms under Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi
from 1981 C.E. to 1988 C.E. and then two more terms under President Hashemi Rafsanjani from 1988 C.E. to 1997 C.E.

After winning the presidential election on October 13, 1981 C.E., President Ali Khamenei proposed Velayati as his prime minister to the Majlis of Iran, but Majlis voted against him (74/80/38) on October 22, C.E. Khamenei later proposed Mir-Hossein Mousavi who gained Majlis's approval.

Velayati was under consideration by the conservative alliance of Iran as a possible candidate for Iranian presidential election of 2005 C.E., but he announced that he does not accept candidacy of the conservative alliance and will run as an Independent.

Wilson, Thomas Woodrow

Thomas Woodrow Wilson (b. December 28, 1856 C.E. – d. February 3, 1924 C.E.) was the 28th President of the United States (March 4, 1913 C.E. – March 3, 1921 C.E.). Wilson was president of the American Political Science Association from 1910 C.E. to 1911 C.E. Initially an academic, he served as President of Princeton University and was the 45th state Governor of New Jersey (1911 C.E. – 1913 C.E.). He was the second Democrat to serve two consecutive terms in the White House, the first having been Andrew Jackson, and his terms in office spanned his country’s involvement in World War I.

Wirth, Tim

Timothy E. Wirth (b. September 22, 1939 C.E.) is a former United States Senator from Colorado. Wirth, a Democrat, was a member of the House from 1975 C.E. to 1987 C.E. and was elected to the Senate in 1986 C.E., serving one term there before stepping down. He was Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs during the Clinton Administration.

A supporter of the proposed Kyoto Protocol, Wirth announced the US’s commitment to legally binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions.

Woolsey, Jr., R. James

Robert James Woolsey Jr. (b. September 21, 1941 C.E.) is a foreign policy specialist and former Director of Central Intelligence of the Central Intelligence Agency (February 5, 1993 C.E. - January 10, 1995 C.E.).

Woolsey has served in the U.S. government as:

- Advisor (during military service) on the U.S. Delegation to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT 1), Helsinki and Vienna, 1969 C.E. - 1970 C.E.
- General Counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, 1970 C.E. - 1973 C.E.
➤ Under Secretary of the Navy, 1977 C.E. - 1979 C.E.
➤ Delegate at Large to the U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) and Nuclear and Space Arms Talks (NST), Geneva, 1983 C.E. - 1986 C.E.
➤ Ambassador to the Negotiation on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), Vienna, 1989 C.E. - 1991 C.E.
➤ Director of Central Intelligence, 1993 C.E. - 1995 C.E.

He is currently a trustee at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Advisor of the Institute for the Analysis of Global Security, Founding Member of the Set America Free Coalition, and Vice President at Booz Allen & Hamilton for Global Strategic Security. He was formerly chairman of the Freedom House board of trustees.

He is also a member of the Project for the New American Century (PNAC) and was one of the signatories to the January 26, 1998 C.E., PNAC letter sent to President Clinton that called for the removal of Saddam Hussain.

Yazdi, Ibrahim

Ibrahim Yazdi (b. 1931 C.E. in Qazvin) is an Iranian politician, the Secretary General of Freedom Movement Party, a party which is considered illegal by some Iranian officials.

Yazdi was the Minister of Foreign Affairs in interim government of Mehdi Bazargan, until November 6, 1979 C.E., when the cabinet's mass resignation in the aftermath of Ayatollah Khomeini's support of the hostage-taking students in Iran hostage crisis was accepted by Khomeini. On March 8 Freedom Movement Party of Iran announced his nomination for Iranian presidential election, 2005 C.E.

Zerzan, John

John Zerzan (b. 1943 C.E.) is an American anarchist and primitivist philosopher and author. His works critique (agricultural) civilization as inherently oppressive, and advocate drawing upon the ways of life of prehistoric humans as an inspiration for what a free society should look like. Some of his criticism has extended as far as challenging domestication, language, symbolic thought (such as mathematics and art) and the concept of time. In 1966 C.E. Zerzan was arrested while performing civil disobedience at a Berkeley anti-Vietnam War march and spent two weeks in the Alameda County Jail.

As a Marxist-Leninist-Maoist in the late 1960s he worked as a social worker for the city of San Francisco welfare department. Becoming frustrated with the mundane life of a low-wage government worker he helped organize a social worker's union, the SSEU, and was elected vice president in 1968 C.E., and president in 1969 C.E.
Agreements, Pacts & Accords

1949 Armistice Agreements

The 1949 Armistice Agreements are a set of agreements signed during 1949 C.E. between Israel and its neighbours Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

The agreements ended the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, and established the armistice lines between Israel and the West Bank, also known as the Green Line, until the 1967 Six-Day War.

Agreements

With Egypt

The agreement with Egypt was signed on February 24. The main point was that the armistice line was drawn along the international border (dating back to 1906 C.E.) for the most part, except near the Mediterranean Sea, where Egypt remained in control of a strip of land along the coast, which became known as the Gaza Strip.

With Lebanon

The agreement with Lebanon was signed on March 23. The main point was that unlike the other agreements, there was no clause disclaiming this line as an international border, which was thereafter treated as it had been previously, as a de jure international border.

With Jordan

The agreement with Jordan was signed on April 3. The main point was that a Special Committee was to be formed to make arrangements for safe movement of traffic between Jerusalem and Mount Scopus campus of Hebrew University, along the Latrun-Jerusalem Highway, free access to the Holy Places, and other matters.

With Syria

The agreement with Syria was signed on July 20. Syria withdrew its forces from most of the territories it controlled west of the international border, which became demilitarized zones.

Others

Iraq, whose forces took an active part in the war (although it has no common border with Israel), withdrew its forces from the region in March 1949 C.E. The front occupied by Iraqi forces was covered by the armistice agreement.
between Israel and Jordan and there was no separate agreement with Iraq.

**Balfour Declaration, 1917**

The **Balfour Declaration** was a letter dated November 2, 1917 C.E. from British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour, to Lord Rothschild (Walter Rothschild, 2nd Baron Rothschild), a leader of the British Jewish community, for transmission to the Zionist Federation, a private Zionist organization. The letter stated the position, agreed to at a British Cabinet meeting on October 31, 1917 C.E., that the British government supported Zionist plans for a Jewish "national home" in Palestine, with the condition that nothing should be done which might prejudice the rights of existing communities there.

**Cairo Agreement**

Secret agreement between Palestine Liberation Organization and the government of Lebanon granting the PLO the right to operate on Lebanese soil. It was signed by PLO chief Yasser Arafat and the Lebanese army in Cairo on November 3, 1969 C.E. This followed the PLO's ousting from its former headquarters during Black September in Jordan. This led to an Israeli invasion and subsequent occupation in 1982 C.E.

**Camp David 2000 Summit**

The **Middle East Peace Summit at Camp David** of July 2000 C.E. took place between United States President Bill Clinton, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. It was an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to negotiate a "final status settlement" to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In a last attempt to bring Middle East peace, Clinton wrote a proposal to Barak and Arafat, laying down the parameters for future negotiations.

On July 11, the Camp David 2000 C.E. Summit convened. The summit ended on July 25, without an agreement being reached. At its conclusion, a Trilateral Statement was issued defining the agreed principles to guide future negotiations.

**Camp David Accords (1978)**

The **Camp David Accords** were signed by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin on September 17, 1978 C.E., following twelve days of secret negotiations at Camp David. The two agreements were signed at the White House, and were witnessed by United States President Jimmy Carter.

The agreement outlined a basis for the peace treaty 6 months later, in particular deciding the future of the Sinai peninsula. Israel agreed to withdraw its
armed forces from the Sinai and restore it to Egypt in return for normal
diplomatic relations with Egypt, guarantees of freedom of passage through the
Suez Canal and other nearby waterways (such as the Straits of Tiran).

Faisal-Weizmann Agreement

The Faisal-Weizmann Agreement was signed on January 3, 1919 C.E., by
Emir Faisal (son of the King of Hejaz) and Chaim Weizmann (later President of
the World Zionist Organization) as part of the Paris Peace Conference, 1919 C.E.
settling disputes stemming from World War I. It was a short-lived agreement for
Arab-Jewish cooperation on the development of a Jewish homeland in Palestine
and an Arab nation in a large part of the Middle East.

On January 3, 1919, C.E. they signed the written agreement which is
known by their names, see Paris Peace Conference, 1919 C.E.

Weizmann signed the agreement on behalf of the Zionist Organization,
while Faisal signed on behalf of the Arab Kingdom of Hijaz. The main point was
that the Kingdom of Hijaz undertook to support the Balfour Declaration of 1917
calling for a Jewish national home in Palestine.

Fourth Geneva Convention

The Fourth Geneva Convention (or GCIV) relates to the protection of
civilians during times of war in the hands of an enemy and under any occupation
by a foreign power. This should not be confused with the better known Third
Geneva Convention, which deals with the treatment of prisoners of war. The
convention was published on August 12, 1949 C.E., at the end of a conference
held in Geneva from April 21 to August 12, 1949 C.E. The convention entered
into force on October 21, 1950 C.E.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (typically abbreviated GATT)
functioned as the precursor to the World Trade Organization trading system.
GATT was created by the Bretton Woods meetings that took place in Bretton
Woods, New Hampshire in 1944 C.E., setting out a plan for economic recovering
post World War II. This first version of GATT is referred to as “GATT 1947”. In
1994 C.E., GATT was again updated with new obligations upon its signatories.
One of the most significant changes made in GATT (or “GATT 1994”) was the
creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO). 75 of the GATT members and
the European Communities are the founding members of WTO on 1.1.1995 C.E.
Other 52 of the GATT members rejoined WTO in the next 2 years (the last is
Congo in 1997 C.E.). After the WTO founding 21 new (non-GATT) members
have joined and 28 are currently negotiating their membership.

The GATT, as an international agreement, is very similar to a treaty.
Under United States law it is classed as a congressional-executive agreement. It is based on the “unconditional most favored nation principle”. This means that the conditions applied to the most favored trading nation (i.e. the one with the least restrictions) apply to all trading nations.

The countries who signed GATT now and then negotiated new trade agreements that all would enter into. Each such set of agreements was called a “round”. In general, each of these agreements bound the members to reduce certain tariffs, with many special-case treatments of individual products, and in many cases with exceptions and modifications for each country.

Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance

The Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (commonly known as the Rio Treaty, the Rio Pact, or by the Spanish-language acronym TIAR from Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Reciproca) was an agreement made in 1947 C.E. in Rio de Janeiro among many American countries. The central principle contained in its articles is that an attack against one is to be considered an attack against them all; this was known as the “hemispheric defense” doctrine.

The treaty was initially ratified in 1947 C.E., with Bahamas as the most recent country to sign and ratify it in 1982 C.E. It came into force in 1948 C.E. (in accordance with Article 22 of the treaty). In 2001 C.E., the United States invoked the Rio Treaty after the September 11 attacks.

Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip

Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip or Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement, or simply the Interim Agreement, also known as Oslo 2 (or Oslo II), and alternately known as Taba, was a key and complex agreement about the future of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. It was first signed in Taba (in the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt) by Israel and the PLO on September 24, 1995 C.E. and then four days later on September 28, 1995 C.E. by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and witnessed by US President Bill Clinton as well as by representatives of Russia, Egypt, Jordan, Norway, and the European Union in Washington, D.C.

The agreement consists of a “preamble” acknowledging its roots in earlier diplomatic efforts of UN Security Council Resolution 242 (1967 C.E.) and UN Security Council Resolution 338 (1973 C.E.) the Madrid Conference of 1991 C.E. and the other prior agreements that came before it.

Most significantly the agreement recognizes the establishment of a “Palestinian Interim Self-Government Authority”, i.e. an elected Council, called “the Council” or “the Palestinian Council”. Supersedes three earlier agreements signed during 1994 C.E. – 1995 C.E.
Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty

The Israel-Egypt peace treaty (Arabic transliterated: Mu'abadat al-Salam al-Masriyab al-Isra'iiyob) was signed in Washington, DC, United States, on March 26, 1979 C.E., following the Camp David Accords (1978 C.E.). The main features of the treaty were the mutual recognition of each country by the other, the cessation of the state of war that had existed since the 1948 C.E. Arab-Israeli War, and the withdrawal by Israel of its armed forces and civilians from the Sinai Peninsula which Israel had occupied since the 1967 C.E. Six-Day War.

The agreement notably made Egypt the first Arab country to officially recognize Israel. Jordan followed in 1994 C.E. with the Israel-Jordan Treaty of Peace.

In a separate Israel-US Memorandum of Agreement, concluded on the same day, the United States spelled out its commitments to Israel in case the treaty is violated, the role of the UN and the future supply of military and economic aid to Israel.

Israel-Jordan Treaty of Peace

The Israel-Jordan Treaty of Peace (full name: Treaty of Peace Between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) (Arabic transliterated: Mu'abadat al-Salam al-'Orduniyah al-Isra'iliyah) is a peace treaty signed in 1994 C.E. The treaty 'normalized' relations between the two countries and resolved territorial disputes between them. Its signing is also closely linked with the efforts to create 'peace' between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization representing the Palestinian Authority.

It was signed at the southern border crossing of Wadi Araba on October 26, 1994 C.E., and made Jordan only the second Arab country (after Egypt) to normalize relations with Israel.

North American Free Trade Agreement

The North American Free Trade Agreement, known usually as NAFTA, is a free trade agreement among Canada, the United States, and Mexico. NAFTA went into effect on January 1, 1994 C.E. NAFTA is also used to refer to the tripartite trading bloc of North American countries.

NAFTA called for immediately eliminating duties on half of all U.S. goods shipped to Mexico and gradually phasing out other tariffs over a period of about 14 years. Restrictions were to be removed from many categories, including motor vehicles and automotive parts, computers, textiles, and agriculture. The treaty also protected intellectual property rights (patents, copyrights, and trademarks) and outlined the removal of restrictions on investment among the three countries. Provisions regarding worker and environmental protection were added later as a
result of supplemental agreements signed in 1993 C.E. This agreement was an expansion of the earlier Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement of 1989 C.E. NAFTA is a treaty under international law.

The agreement was initially pursued by free-trade conservative governments in the US and Canada, led by Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, and US President George H. W. Bush. There was considerable opposition on both sides of the border, but in the United States it was able to secure passage after President Bill Clinton made its passage a major legislative initiative in 1993 C.E. After intense political debate and the negotiation of several side agreements, the US House passed NAFTA by 234-200 (132 Republicans and 102 Democrats voting in favor) and the US Senate passed it by 61-38. Some opposition persists to the present day, although labour unions in Canada have recently removed objections to the agreement from their platforms.

From the perspective of North American consumers, one of the effects of NAFTA has been the significant increase in bilingual or even trilingual labeling on products, for simultaneous distribution through retailers in Canada, the U.S., and Mexico in French, English, and Spanish.

**Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty**

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT, or, much more rarely, NNPT) is a treaty, opened for signature on July 1, 1968 C.E., restricting the possession of nuclear weapons. The vast majority of sovereign states (187) are parties to the treaty. However two out of seven confirmed nuclear powers and one possible nuclear power have not ratified the treaty. The treaty was proposed by Ireland. Finland was the first to sign. In New York City, on May 11, 1995 C.E., more than 170 countries decided to extend the treaty indefinitely and without conditions.

The treaty is often summarized by its three pillars: nonproliferation, disarmament, and the right to peacefully use nuclear technology.

**Oslo Accords**

The Oslo Accords, officially called the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements or Declaration of Principles (DOP), were finalized in Oslo, Norway on August 20, 1993 C.E., and subsequently officially signed at a public ceremony in Washington D.C. on September 13, 1993 C.E., with Mahmoud Abbas signing for the Palestine Liberation Organization and Shimon Peres signing for the 'state' of Israel. It was witnessed by Warren Christopher for the United States and Andrei Kozyrev for Russia, in the presence of US President Bill Clinton and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with the PLO's Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The Oslo Accords were a culmination of a series of secret and public
agreements, dating particularly from the Madrid Conference of 1991 C.E. onwards, and negotiated between the Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organization (acting as representatives of the Palestinian people) in 1993 C.E. as part of a peace process trying to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Despite the high hopes expressed in the Accords and in the subsequent agreements, the conflict has not been resolved.

Additional agreements

Additional Israeli-Palestinian documents related to the Oslo Accords are:

- Israel-Palestine Liberation Organization letters of recognition, (September 9, 1993 C.E.),
- Protocol on Economic Relations, signed in Paris on April 29, 1994 C.E.
- 1994 Cairo Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area (May 4, 1994 C.E.),
- 1994 Washington Declaration (July 25, 1994 C.E.),
- Agreement on Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities Between Israel and the PLO (29 August 1994 C.E.),
- Protocol on Further Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities signed at Cairo on August 27, 1995 C.E.
- Protocol Concerning the Redeployment in Hebron (January 15/January 17, 1997 C.E.)
- Wye River Memorandum (October 23, 1998 C.E.)
- Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum (September 4, 1999 C.E.),
- Taba summit (January 27, 2001 C.E.).

Paris Peace Conference, 1919

The Paris Peace Conference of 1919 C.E. was an international conference, organized by the victors of the World War I for negotiating the peace treaties between the Allied and Associated Powers and the defeated Central Powers. The conference opened on January 18, 1919 C.E. and lasted until January 21, 1920 C.E. with a few intervals.

The Paris peace treaties, together with the accords of the Washington Naval Conference of 1921 C.E. – 1922 C.E., laid the foundations for the so-called Versailles-Washington system of international relations. The remaking of the world map at these conferences gave birth to a number of critical conflict-prone international contradictions, which would become one of the causes of World War II. The decision to create the League of Nations and the approval of its
Charter both took place during the conference.

**Paris Peace Treaties, 1947**

The Paris Peace Conference (July 29 to October 15, 1946 C.E.) resulted in the Paris peace treaties signed on February 10, 1947 C.E. The victorious wartime Allied powers (principally the United States, United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union) negotiated the details of treaties of Italy, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Finland.

**The Madrid Conference**

The Madrid Conference was hosted by the government of Spain and co-sponsored by the USA and the then Soviet Union. It convened on October 30, 1991 C.E. and lasted for three days. It was an early attempt by the international community to start a 'peace process' through negotiations involving Israel and the Arab countries including Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians.

In the aftermath of the 1991 C.E. Gulf War, US President George H.W. Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker formulated the framework of objectives, and together with the Soviet Union extended a letter of invitation, dated October 30, 1991 C.E. to Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and the Palestinians.

The purpose of the conference was to serve as an opening forum for the participants and had no power to impose solutions or veto agreements. It inaugurated negotiations on both bilateral tracks and on multilateral tracks that also involved the international community. The Syrian and Lebanese negotiators agreed on a common strategy.

**UN General Assembly Resolution 194**

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 194 was passed on December 11, 1948 C.E., near the end of the 1948 C.E. Arab-Israeli War. The resolution expresses appreciation for the efforts UN Envoy Folke Bernadotte after his assassination by members of Lehi. It deals with the situation in the region of Palestine at the time, including the role of the United Nations Conciliation Commission.

The resolution consists of 15 articles, the most quoted of which are:

- Article 11: calls for conditional return of refugees
- Article 7: protection and free access to the Holy Places
- Article 8: demilitarization and UN control over Jerusalem
- Article 9: free access to Jerusalem
UN Security Council Resolution 242

United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 (S/RES/242) was adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council on November 22, 1967 C.E. in the aftermath of the Six Day War. Adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, it calls for the “withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict” and the “termination of all claims or states of belligerency”. It also calls for the recognition of all established states by belligerent parties (Israel, Egypt, Syria, Jordan) of each other and calls for the establishment of defensible boundaries for all parties. It is one of the most commonly referenced UN resolutions in Middle Eastern politics. It was reaffirmed and made binding by UN Security Council Resolution 338, adopted after the 1973 C.E.

UN Security Council Resolution 338

The three-line UN Security Council Resolution 338, adopted on October 22, 1973 C.E., called for the ceasefire in the Yom Kippur War in article 1 and for implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 242 in article 2. Article 3 called for negotiations, establishing the framework for the Geneva Conference held in December of 1973 C.E.

United Nations Millennium Declaration

The Millennium Declaration is a United Nations resolution, adopted at the 8th plenary meeting on September 8, 2000 C.E., with nine major development goals. The implementation of the Declaration was reviewed at the September 2005 Millennium +5 Summit. The Summit held on 30th September, 2005 declares:

➤ Malnutrition
➤ The new United Nations coordinator for human and avian influenza warns that 5-150 million people could die in a flu epidemic.
➤ Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

Conflict in Iraq.

Washington Agreement

In March and May 1994 C.E., a peace agreement was mediated between the warring Bosnian Croats and the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and signed in Washington and Vienna. The Washington Agreement created the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Under the agreement, the combined territory held by the Croat and Bosniak forces was divided into ten autonomous cantons. The cantonal system was selected to prevent dominance by one ethnic group over another.
Wye River Memorandum

The Wye River Memorandum was a political agreement negotiated to implement the earlier Interim Agreement of 28 September, 1995 C.E. brokered by the United States between Israel and the Palestine Authority completed on October 23, 1998 C.E. It was signed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. It was negotiated at Wye River, MD (at the Wye River Conference Center) and signed at the White House with President Bill Clinton playing a key role as the official witness. On November 17, 1998 C.E., Israel's 120 member parliament, the Knesset, approved the Wye River Memorandum by a vote of 75-19.

With the outbreak of the Al-Aqsa Intifada in September of 2000 C.E., and the counter-attacks by the Israel Defense Forces, the Wye River's understandings and goals remain un-implemented.
Historical Events

1948 Arab-Israeli War

The 1948 Arab-Israeli War is referred to as the “War of Independence” or as the “War of Liberation” by Israelis. For Palestinians, the war marked the beginning of the events referred to as “The Catastrophe” (“al Nakba” in Arabic). After the United Nations partitioned the territory of the British Mandate of Palestine into two states, Jewish and Arab, the Arabs refused to accept it and the armies of Egypt, Syria, Transjordan, Lebanon and Iraq, supported by others, attacked the forcibly established state of Israel. It was the first in a series of open wars in the Arab-Israeli conflict. As a result, the region was divided between Israel, Egypt and Transjordan.

Between 700,000 and 750,000 Arab Palestinian refugees were created during this conflict. More than 600,000 of the Jews living in Arab countries and territories fled or immigrated to Israel, with another 300,000 seeking refuge in various Western countries, primarily France.

Arab Palestinians have staged annual demonstrations and protests on May 15 of each year, one day after the anniversary of Israel’s declaration of independence.

American Revolution

The American Revolution is the series of events, ideas, and changes that resulted in the revolution and ensuing political separation of thirteen colonies in North America from the British Empire and the creation of the United States of America with a new political system. The American War of Independence (1775 C.E. – 1783 C.E.) was one part of the revolution, but the revolution by the Americans began before the first shot was fired at Lexington and Concord and continued after the British surrender at Yorktown. Years later, in 1818, John Adams wrote: “The Revolution was effected before the War commenced”, and “The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people.”

The precise nature and extent of the revolution is a matter of great interpretation. It is generally agreed that the revolution originated around the time of the French and Indian War (1754 C.E. – 1763 C.E.), and ended with the election of George Washington as the first President of the United States in 1789 C.E. Beyond that, interpretations vary. At one end of the spectrum is the view that the American Revolution was not “revolutionary” at all, that it did not radically transform colonial society, but ‘simply replaced a distant government with a local one’. The opposite view is that the American Revolution was a
unique and radical event, producing significant changes that had a profound impact on world history. Most current interpretations fall somewhere in between these two positions.

**Boer War**

The First Boer War also known as the Transvaal War, was fought from December 16, 1880 C.E. until March 23, 1881 C.E. It was the first clash between the British and the Transvaal Boers. It was precipitated by Sir Theophilus Shepstone who annexed the South African Republic (Transvaal Republic) for the British in 1877 C.E. The British consolidated their power over most of the colonies of South Africa in 1879 C.E. after the Anglo-Zulu War. The Boers protested and in December 1880 C.E. they revolted.

The war began on December 16, 1880 C.E. with shots fired by Transvaal Boers at Potchefstroom after Transvaal formally declared independence from Great Britain. It led to the action at Bronkhorstspruit on December 20 1880 C.E., where the Boers ambushed and destroyed a British army convoy. From December 22 1880 C.E. to January 6 1881 C.E., British army garrisons all over the Transvaal became besieged.

The Second Boer War, also known as the South African War and in Afrikaans as the Tweede Vryheidsoorlog (Second War of Independence), was fought from 11 October 1899 C.E. until 31 May 1902 C.E. The war was fought between the British Empire and the two independent Boer republics of the Orange Free State and the South African Republic (Transvaal Republic). After a protracted hard-fought war, the two independent republics lost and were absorbed into the British Empire.

**Cold War**

The Cold War was the protracted geostrategic, economic and ideological struggle that emerged after World War II between the global superpowers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, supported by their respective and emerging alliance partners. The Cold War endured over four decades, from 1947 C.E. until the decline and eventual collapse of East European and Soviet state communism in the late 1980s. The disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991 C.E. is generally considered to mark the absolute end of the conflict.

Important consistent allies of the United States included the United Kingdom, France, West Germany and other members of NATO (the "Western Alliance"); the members of Central treaty organization (CENTO), Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), and Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS); and the nations of Japan, South Korea, Saudi Arabia and Israel.
Important consistent allies of the Soviet Union included Poland, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and other members of the Warsaw Pact and Comecon; and the nations of Mongolia, North Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Cuba and Syria.

The struggle was widely called the Cold War in that it did not involve direct armed conflict between the main contestants (by contrast, a so-called "hot" war). The Cold War was instead waged by means of diplomatic maneuvering, economic pressure, selective aid, intimidation, propaganda, assassination, low-intensity military operations and full-scale proxy wars. The Cold War period also simultaneously witnessed the largest arms race (both conventional and nuclear) in history, leading to widespread global fears of a potential nuclear war.

**Enlightenment**

*Enlightenment* is a fundamental concept in religion, spirituality and secular philosophy, essentially meaning *being illuminated by acquiring new wisdom or understanding.*

While “enlightenment” may refer specifically to the secular European Age of Enlightenment, it also has parallels in both Far Eastern religious concepts (the Buddhist Bodhi, the Zen Satori, and the Hindu moksha) and Abrahamic religions (ie. Judaism, Christianity, and Islam).

The Western intellectual history of term “enlightenment” is the basis for the secular idea that relates to a localized, religion-specific “enlightenment”. It also attempts to bridge the traditional gap between religions and religious belief and psychological science.

In this secular sense, ‘the enlightened’ are those who are not distracted by their thoughts but who stay focused — resisting the natural tendency to become ‘lost’ in thinking about experience (rather than *experiencing the present*). This focus is called ‘awareness of being’, *(satchidananda)* where one’s attention is given to their existence rather than their experience.

The Age of Enlightenment refers to the eighteenth century C.E. in European philosophy, and is often thought of as part of a larger period which includes the Age of Reason. The term also more specifically refers to a historical intellectual movement, “The Enlightenment”. This movement advocated rationality as a means to establish an authoritative system of ethics, aesthetics, and knowledge. The intellectual leaders of this movement regarded themselves as courageous and elite, and regarded their purpose as leading the world toward progress and out of a long period of doubtful tradition, full of irrationality, superstition, and tyranny (which they believed began during a historical period they called the “Dark Ages”). This movement also provided a framework for the American and French Revolutions, the Latin American independence
movement, the Polish Constitution of May 3 as well as leading to the rise of capitalism and the birth of socialism. It is matched by the high baroque and classical eras in music, and the neo-classical period in the arts, and receives contemporary application in the unity of science movement which includes logical positivism.

French Revolution

The French Revolution (1789 C.E. -1799 C.E.) was a period in the history of France. During this time, republicanism replaced the absolute monarchy in France, and the French sector of the Roman Catholic Church was forced to undergo radical restructuring. While France would oscillate among republic, empire, and monarchy for 75 years after the First Republic fell to a coup d'état by Napoleon Bonaparte, the revolution nonetheless spelled a definitive end to the ancien régime. It eclipses the subsequent revolutions of 1830 C.E. and 1848 C.E. in the popular imagination. It is widely seen as a major turning point in continental European history, from the age of absolutism to that of the citizenry, and even of the masses, as the dominant political force.

Gulf War

The 1991 C.E. Gulf War was a conflict between Iraq and a coalition force of approximately 30 nations mandated by the United Nations and led by the United States.

The lead up to the war began with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990 C.E., following unproven Iraqi contentions that Kuwait was illegally "slant-drilling" oil across Iraq's border. The invasion was met with immediate economic sanctions by the United Nations against Iraq. Hostilities commenced in January 1991 C.E., resulting in a decisive victory for the coalition forces, which drove Iraqi forces out of Kuwait with minimal coalition deaths. The main battles were aerial and ground combat within Iraq, Kuwait, and bordering areas of Saudi Arabia. The war did not expand outside the immediate Iraq/Kuwait/Saudi border region, although Iraq fired missiles on Israeli cities.

Prior to World War I, under the Anglo-Ottoman Convention of 1913 C.E., Kuwait was considered to be an autonomous caza within Ottoman Iraq. Following the war, Kuwait fell under British rule and later became an independent emirate. However, Iraqi officials did not accept the legitimacy of Kuwaiti independence or the authority of the Kuwaiti Amir. Iraq never recognized Kuwait's sovereignty and in the 1960s, the United Kingdom deployed troops to Kuwait to deter an Iraqi annexation.

Gulf War and Persian Gulf War are the most common terms for the conflict used within the Western countries. These names have been used by the overwhelming majority of popular historians and journalists in the United
States. The conflict is also known to Americans as Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and to the British as Operation Granby. Kuwaitis and most Arab coalition members refer to the conflict as Harb Tahrir al-Kuwait or “The war of Kuwait Liberation”. In Iraq, the war is often colloquially called simply Um Ma'ârak — “The Mother of All Battles”.

Holocaust

The Holocaust is the name applied to the systematic state-sponsored persecution and genocide of the Jews of Europe along with other groups during World War II by Nazi Germany and collaborators.

The Jews of Europe were the main victims of the Holocaust in what the Nazis called the “Final Solution of the Jewish Question”. The commonly used figure for the number of Jewish victims is six million, so much so that the phrase “six million” is now almost universally interpreted as referring to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, though estimates by historians using, among other sources, records from the Nazi regime itself, range from five million to seven million.

However, the total death toll rises considerably, estimates generally place the total number of Holocaust victims at 9 to 11 million, though some estimates have been as high as 26 million.

Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution (more correctly, the First Industrial Revolution) was one of the major technological, socioeconomic and cultural changes in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century C.E. resulting from the replacement of an economy based on manual labour to one dominated by industry and machine manufacture. It began in Britain with the introduction of steam power (fueled primarily by coal) and powered machinery (mainly in textile manufacturing). The development of all-metal machine tools in the first two decades of the nineteenth century C.E. enabled the manufacture of more production machines for manufacturing in other industries.

The dating of the First Industrial Revolution is not exact. T.S. Ashton held that it was roughly 1760 C.E. – 1830 C.E., in effect the reigns of George III, The Regency, and part of William IV. There was no cut-off point for the First Revolution as it merged into the Second Industrial Revolution around about 1850 C.E., when technological and economic progress gained momentum with the development of steam-powered ships, and railways, and, later in the nineteenth century, the growth of the internal combustion engine and the development of electrical power generation.

The effects spread throughout Western Europe and North America, eventually affecting the rest of the world. The impact of this change on society
was enormous and is often compared to the Neolithic revolution, when mankind developed agriculture and gave up its nomadic lifestyle.

The term revolution applied to technological change was introduced by Friedrich Engels and Louis-Auguste Blanqui in the second half of the nineteenth century C.E.

Inquisition

The term Inquisition (Latin: Inquisitio Haereticae Pravitatis Sanctum Officium) refers broadly to a number of historical movements surrounding the suppression of heresy by the Roman Catholic Church. There were four major movements, starting with the Medieval Inquisition in 1184 C.E. and ending with the Spanish Inquisition in 1834 C.E.

In chronological order, they were the Medieval Inquisition, the Spanish Inquisition, the Portuguese Inquisition and the Roman Inquisition. One would however be incorrect to presume that these were totally unrelated to each other and that the inquisition was limited to these discrete events.

Magna Carta

Magna Carta (Latin for “Great Charter”, literally “Great Paper”), also known as Magna Carta Libertatum, is an English 1215 C.E. charter which limited the power of English Monarchs, specifically King John, from absolute rule. Magna Carta was the result of disagreements between the Pope and King John and his barons over the rights of the king: Magna Carta required the king to renounce certain rights and respect certain legal procedures, and to accept that the will of the king could be bound by law. Magna Carta is widely considered to be the first step in a long historical process leading to the rule of constitutional law.

Napoleonic Conquest of Egypt in 1798

In March 1798 C.E., Bonaparte proposed an expedition to seize Egypt, then a province of the Ottoman Empire, seeking to protect French trade interests and undermine Britain’s access to India. The Directory, although troubled by the scope and cost of the enterprise, readily agreed to the plan in order to remove the popular general from the centre of power.

An unusual aspect of the Egyptian expedition was the inclusion of a large group of scientists assigned to the invading French force: among the other discoveries that resulted, the Rosetta Stone was found. This deployment of intellectual resources is considered by some an indication of Bonaparte’s devotion to the principles of the Enlightenment, and by others as a masterstroke of propaganda obfuscating the true imperialist motives of the invasion. In a largely unsuccessful effort to gain the support of the Egyptian populace,
Bonaparte also issued proclamations casting himself as a liberator of the people from Ottoman oppression, and praising the precepts of Islam.

**Oklahoma Bombing**

The Oklahoma City bombing was a terrorist attack on April 19, 1995 C.E., in which the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, a U.S. government office complex in downtown Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was destroyed, killing 168 people. It is the largest domestic terrorist attack in the history of the United States, and — until the September 11, 2001 C.E. attacks — the largest terrorist attack of any kind in the nation’s history.

**Persian Constitutional Revolution**

The Persian Constitutional Revolution (also Constitutional Revolution of Iran) against the despotic rule of the last Qajar Shah started in 1905 C.E. and lasted until 1911 C.E. It led to the establishment of a parliament in Persia.

The movement, however, did not end with the Revolution and was followed by the Constitutionalist movement of Gilan.

People like Sardar Assad, Sattar Khan and Bagher Khan and cities like Tabriz played significant roles in this movement.

**Reformation**

The Protestant Reformation was a movement which emerged in the sixteenth century C.E. as a series of attempts to reform the Roman Catholic Church in Western Europe. The main front of the reformation was started by Martin Luther.

The Reformation ended in division and the establishment of new institutions, most importantly Lutheranism, the Reformed churches, and Anabaptists, a radical branch whose name means “those who baptize again”. It also led to the Counter-Reformation within the Roman Catholic Church, which theological draft and background were drawn up with the Council of Trent (1548 C.E. – 1563 C.E.), when Rome struck back against the fundamental ideas defended by the Reformers, like Luther. The rift between Catholics and Protestants lead to the breakup of large European empires into the modern nation-state system.

**Renaissance**

The Renaissance, also known as “Il Rinascimento” (in Italian), was an influential cultural movement which brought about a period of scientific revolution, religious reform and artistic transformation, at the dawn of modern European history. It marks the transitional period between the end of the
Middle Ages and the start of the Modern Age. The Renaissance is usually considered to have originated in the fourteenth century C.E. in northern Italy and begun in the late fifteenth century in northern Europe.

Roman Republic

The Roman Republic (Latin: *Res Publica Romanorum*) was a phase of the ancient Roman Civilization characterized by a republican form of government. The republican period began with the overthrow of the Roman Monarchy in 510 BC and lasted until its subversion into the Roman Empire. The precise date in which the Republic became the Empire is disputed, with the dates of Julius Caesar's appointment as perpetual dictator (44 BC), the Battle of Actium (September 2, 31 BC), and the date in which the Roman Senate granted Octavian the title “Augustus” (January 16, 27 BC), all being advanced as candidates.

Scopes Trial

The “Scopes Trial” of 1925 C.E. pitted against each other lawyers William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow (the latter representing teacher John T. Scopes) in an American court case that tested a law passed on March 13, 1925 C.E., which forbade the teaching, in any state-funded educational establishment in Tennessee, of “any theory that denies the story of the Divine Creation of man as taught in the Bible, and to teach instead that man has descended from a lower order of animals”. This is often interpreted as meaning that the law forbade the teaching of any aspect of the theory of evolution. It has often been called the “Scopes Monkey Trial”.

September 11, 2001

The September 11, 2001 C.E. attacks (also referred to as 9/11 or September the 11th in the U.S. or the 11th September attacks elsewhere) were a series of coordinated attacks upon the United States of America carried out on Tuesday, September 11, 2001 C.E., in which a total of nineteen hijackers simultaneously took control of four U.S. domestic commercial airliners. The hijackers crashed two planes into the World Trade Center in Manhattan, New York City — one into each of the two tallest towers, about 18 minutes apart. Within two hours, both towers collapsed. The hijackers crashed the third aircraft into the U.S. Department of Defense headquarters, the Pentagon, in Arlington County, Virginia. The fourth plane crashed into a rural field in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, following apparent passenger resistance. The official count records 2,986 deaths in the attacks, including the 19 hijackers.

The September 11th attacks are among the most significant events to have occurred so far in the twenty-first century C.E. in terms of the profound political, psychological, and economic effects that followed in the United States.
and many other parts of the world.

Six-Day War

The Six-Day War (Hebrew transliteration: Milkhemet Sheshet HaYamim, Arabic transliteration: Harb al-Aiyam as-Sitab), also known as the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, Six Days’ War, or June War, was fought between Israel and its Arab neighbors Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. It began when Israel launched what it described as a pre-emptive attack against Egypt, following the latter’s closure of the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping and the deployment of troops in the Sinai near the Israeli border, and after months of increasingly tense border incidents and diplomatic crises. At its end, Israel controlled the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank, and the Golan Heights. According to international law, Israel’s occupation of the territories obtained through the “Six-Day War” is illegal. The results of the war affect the geopolitics of the region to this day.

The Holocaust

The Holocaust is the name applied to the systematic state-sponsored persecution and genocide of the Jews of Europe along with other groups during World War II by Nazi Germany and collaborators.

The Jews of Europe were the main victims of the Holocaust in what the Nazis called the “Final Solution of the Jewish Question”. The commonly used figure for the number of Jewish victims is six million, so much so that the phrase “six million” is now almost universally interpreted as referring to the Jewish victims of the Holocaust, though estimates by historians using, among other sources, records from the Nazi regime itself, range from five million to seven million.

However, the total death toll rises considerably, estimates generally place the total number of Holocaust victims at 9 to 11 million, though some estimates have been as high as 26 million.

White Revolution

The White Revolution (Persian: Enghelab-e-Sephid) was a far-reaching series of reforms launched in 1963 C.E. by the last Shah of Iran Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

The Shah had intended it to be a non-violent regeneration of Iranian society through economic and social reforms, with the ultimate long-term aim of transforming Iran into a global economic and industrial power. The Shah introduced novel economic concepts such as profit-sharing for industrial workers and initiated massive government-financed heavy industry projects, as well as the nationalization of forests and pastureland.

Though the White Revolution contributed greatly towards the economic
and technological advancement of Iran, the failures of some of the land reform programs and the distinct lack of democratic reforms, as well as severe antagonism towards the White Revolution from the clergy and landed elites, would ultimately contribute to the Shah's downfall during the Iranian Revolution in 1979 C.E.

**World War I**

World War I, also known as the First World War, and (before 1939 C.E.) the Great War, the War of the Nations, and the War to End All Wars, was a world conflict lasting from August 1914 C.E. to the final Armistice (cessation of hostilities) on November 11, 1918 C.E. The Allied Powers (led by Britain, France, and, later, the United States) defeated the Central Powers (led by Germany, Austria and the Ottoman Empire), and led to the collapse of four empires and a radical change in the map of Europe.

Hostilities were also prosecuted, however, by more dynamic invasion and battle, by fighting at sea and — for the first time — in and from the air. More than 9 million soldiers died on the various battlefields, and nearly that many more in the participating countries' home fronts on account of food shortages and genocide committed under the cover of various civil wars and internal conflicts. In World War I, only some 5% of the casualties (directly caused by the war) were civilian — in World War II, this figure approached 50%.

Ultimately, World War I created a decisive break with the old world order that had emerged after the Napoleonic Wars, as modified by the mid-nineteenth century national revolutions, the processes of European national unification and European colonialism. Three European land empires were shattered and subsequently dismembered to varying degrees: the German, the Austro-Hungarian and the Russian. In the Balkans and the Middle East, the Ottoman Empire experienced the same fate.

**World War II**

World War II, also known as the Second World War, was a large scale military conflict that took place between 1939 C.E. and 1945 C.E. It engulfed much of the globe and is accepted as the largest and deadliest war in human history. The war was initially fought between Germany and the Allies, at first consisting of the United Kingdom (with the British Empire), France (with the French Empire) and Poland. Germany was later joined by Italy, jointly known as the Axis Powers, and Japan. Some of the nations that Germany conquered also sent military forces, particularly to the Eastern front, while others joined the Allies. The Soviet Union had signed a non-aggression treaty with Germany, but 22 June 1941 C.E. Germany invaded the Soviet Union, pulling that country into the war as well. In the same year, on 7 December 1941 C.E. the United States of America entered the war on the Allies' side after first Japan and then
Germany attacked and declared war on the US. China, which had been engaged in war with Japan since the mid-1930s, also entered the Allies camp. The war ended in 1945 C.E. with the unconditional surrenders of both Germany and Japan.

Approximately 62 million people died as a result of the war, almost half of which were Russians (at the decisive Eastern Front). After World War II, Europe was partitioned into Western and Soviet spheres of influence.

This partition was, however, informal; rather than coming to terms about the spheres of influence, the relationship between the victors steadily deteriorated, and the military lines of demarcation finally became the de facto country boundaries. Western Europe largely aligned as NATO, and Eastern Europe largely as the Warsaw pact countries, alliances which were fundamental to the ensuing Cold War. In Asia, the United States' military occupation of Japan led to Japan's democratization. China's civil war continued through and after the war, resulting eventually in the establishment of the People's Republic of China. There was a fundamental shift in power from Western Europe to the new superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, with significant boundary changes and displacement of people as the Soviet Union's borders shifted westwards.
Appendix IV

Organizations, Ideologies & Movements

Abu Sayyaf Group

The Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) or simply Abu Sayyaf, also known as Al Harakat Al Islamiyya, is an Islamist group of based in and around the southern islands of the Philippines, primarily Jolo, Basilan, and Mindanao.

Qadaffy Janjalani with his right hand man and ASG spokesperson Abu Sabaya. Qadaffy Janjalani is named as the nominal leader of the group by the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

A blast at a US military base in the Philippines on February 18, 2006 C.E. was blamed on Abu Sayyaf by Brig. General Alexander Aleo, a United States Army officer.

Arab League

The Arab League or League of Arab States is an organization of Arab states (compare Arab world). It resembles the Organization of American States, the Council of Europe, or the former Organisation for African Unity (now African Union), in that it has primarily political aims; one can regard each of these organizations as a regional version of the United Nations.

The Egyptian capital Cairo hosts the permanent headquarters of the League. Seven states formed the Arab League on March 22, 1945 C.E., defining its main goals as to:

Serve the common good of all Arab countries, ensure better conditions for all Arab countries, guarantee the future of all Arab countries and fulfill the hopes and expectations of all Arab countries.

Caeserism

Gaius Julius Caesar (July 12 or 13, 100 BC – March 15, 44 BC) was a Roman military and political leader. He played an important part in the transformation of the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire.

Caesar fought in a civil war which left him undisputed master of the Roman world, and began extensive reforms of Roman society and government. This period of civil wars transformed the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire with Caesar's great nephew and adopted son Octavian (later known as Caesar Augustus) installed as the first emperor.

Capitalism

Capitalism has been defined in various ways. In common usage, it means
an economic or socio-economic system in which the means of production are overwhelmingly privately owned and operated for profit, decisions regarding investment of capital are made privately, and where production, distribution, and the prices of goods, services, and labor are affected by the forces of supply and demand.

While most people regard the Western developed countries as capitalist, some of these economies may be more strictly called "mixed economies", because they contain state-owned means of production and significant government economic interventionism.

In the early twenty-first century C.E., capitalism is seen as the dominant political order. With the collapse of the socialist Soviet bloc in the early 1990s, alternatives to capitalism were, in the eyes of many, discredited.

However, some argue that capitalism has not proved capable in improving the socio-economic conditions for people outside the golden billion.

Catholicism

Catholicism has two main ecclesiastical meanings, described in Webster's Dictionary as: a) "the whole orthodox Christian church, or adherence thereto"; and b) "the doctrines or faith of the Roman Catholic church, or adherence thereto".

The term comes from the Greek adjective, meaning "general" or "universal".

Although most Christian denominations affirm faith in "One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church", the term Catholicism as widely understood applies to the Catholic Church, governed by the Bishop of Rome and the bishops in communion with him.

However, other Churches that trace their historic episcopate to the apostolic succession — such as the Oriental Orthodox Churches, the Eastern Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, the churches of the Anglican Communion, and the Old-Catholics — consider themselves simply to be different, non-Roman, branches or Communions of the Catholic Church. Neo-Lutheranism argues that Lutheran Churches are simply a Protestant reform movement that remains within the greater Church catholic.

Central Intelligence Agency

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is an American intelligence agency, responsible for obtaining and analyzing information about foreign governments, corporations, and individuals, and reporting such information to the various branches of the U.S. Government. A third function of the CIA is to act as the "hidden hand" of the government for engaging in covert actions at the direction of the President. It is this last function that has caused most of the
controversies regarding the CIA over the years.

Its headquarters are in the community of Langley in the McLean CDP of Fairfax County, Virginia. The CIA is part of the American Intelligence Community, which is now led by the Director of National Intelligence (DNI). The current director of the CIA is Porter J. Goss.

**Centro Nacional de Inteligencia (CNI)**

The National Intelligence Center (Spanish: Centro Nacional de Inteligencia, CNI) is the Spanish official intelligence agency. Its headquarters are located in the A-6 motorway near Madrid. The CNI is the successor of the Centro Superior de Información de la Defensa, Superior Intelligence Centre for the Defense. It's main target areas are North Africa and Latin America and it operates in more than 80 countries.

**Colonialism**

Colonialism is the extension of a nation's sovereignty over territory and people outside its own boundaries, often to facilitate economic domination over their resources, labor, and markets. The term also refers to a set of beliefs used to legitimate or promote this system, especially the belief that the colonizers are superior to those of the colonized.

Advocates of colonialism argue that colonial rule benefits the colonized by developing the economic and political infrastructure necessary for modernization and democracy.

**Communism**

Communism refers to a conjectured future classless, stateless social organization based upon common ownership of the means of production, and can be classified as a branch of the broader socialist movement. Communism also refers to a variety of political movements which claim the establishment of such a social organization as their ultimate goal.

**Elitism**

Elitism is a belief or attitude that an elite — a selected group of persons whose personal abilities, specialized training or other attributes place them at the top of any field — are the people whose views on a matter are to be taken most seriously, or who are alone fit to govern. Elites may also treat others as not being good enough to be their companions. Thus elitism sees an elite as occupying a special position of authority or privilege in a group, set apart from the majority of people who do not match up with their abilities or attributes. Thus this selected elite is treated with favouritism. Members of an inherited elite are aristocrats and naturally tend towards preserving the status quo.
European Commission

The European Commission (formally the Commission of the European Communities) is the executive body of the European Union. Alongside the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union, it is one of the three main institutions governing the Union. Its primary roles are to propose and implement legislation, and to act as 'guardian of the treaties' which provide the legal basis for the EU. The role of the European Commission has many parallels with the executive body of a national government, but also differences. Its name also has evident parallels with Council of People's Commissars - the first executive body and government of the Soviet Union.

The Commission originated in the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, which was established in 1952 C.E. under the terms of the Treaty Establishing the European Coal and Steel Community. In 1958 C.E. two further bodies were established under the terms of the Treaties of Rome. These were the Commission of the European Economic Community and the Commission of the European Atomic Energy Community. Finally, in 1967 C.E., these three bodies merged to form the Commission of the European Communities, established under the terms of the Merger Treaty. This is the body that continues to exist to this day.

The Commission currently consists of 25 Commissioners, one from each member state of the EU, supported by an administrative body of several thousand European civil servants divided into departments called Directorate-General. The Commission is headed by a President (from November 2004 C.E., José Manuel Durão Barroso of Portugal).

Unlike the Council of the European Union, the Commission is intended to be a body independent of member states. Commissioners are therefore not permitted to take instructions from the government of the country that appointed them, but are supposed to represent the interests of the citizens of the EU as a whole.

The Commission differs from other institutions in the EU system through its "power of initiative". This means that only the Commission has the authority to initiate legislation in the areas known as the "first pillar" (a category which includes most areas of policy). However, the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament are both able to formally request that the Commission legislate on a particular topic. In the areas that fall within the "second pillar" (foreign policy and defence) and "third pillar" (criminal law), the Commission shares the power of initiating legislation with member states.

The present Commission, the Barroso Commission, consists of 25 Commissioners. This Commission has to serve from 22 November 2004 C.E. to 31 October 2009 C.E.
European Union

The European Union or the EU is an intergovernmental and supranational union of 25 European countries, known as member states. Two new member states will join in 2007 C.E. — Romania and Bulgaria. The European Union was established under that name in 1992 C.E. by the Treaty on European Union (the Maastricht Treaty). However, many aspects of the Union existed before that date through a series of predecessor relationships, dating back to 1951 C.E.

The European Union's activities cover all areas of public policy, from health and economic policy to foreign affairs and defence. A key activity of the EU is the establishment and administration of a common single market, consisting of a customs union, a single currency (adopted by 12 of the 25 member states), a Common Agricultural Policy, a common trade policy, and a Common Fisheries Policy.

The most important EU institutions are the Council of the European Union, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice. The European Union has 25 member states.

The functioning of the European Union is supported by several institutions:

- The European Parliament (732 members 750 max.).
- The Council of the European Union (or ‘Council of Ministers’) (25 members).
- The European Commission (25 members).
- The European Court of Justice (incorporating the Court of First Instance) (25 judges of Court of First Instance — CFI).
- The European Court of Auditors (25 members).
- The European Council (25 members) - whose unique role is perhaps better described as that of a “quasi-institution”.

Faisal-Weizmann Agreement

The Faisal-Weizmann Agreement was signed on January 3, 1919 C.E., by Emir Faisal (son of the King of Hejaz) and Chaim Weizmann (later President of the World Zionist Organization) as part of the Paris Peace Conference, 1919 C.E. settling disputes stemming from World War I. It was a short-lived agreement for Arab-Jewish cooperation on the development of a Jewish homeland in Palestine and an Arab nation in a large part of the Middle East.

On January 3, 1919, C.E. they signed the written agreement which is known by their names, see Paris Peace Conference, 1919 C.E.

Weizmann signed the agreement on behalf of the Zionist Organization,
while Faisal signed on behalf of the Arab Kingdom of Hijaz. The main point was that the Kingdom of Hijaz undertook to support the Balfour Declaration of 1917 calling for a Jewish national home in Palestine.

Fascism

Fascism (in Italian, *fascismo*), capitalized, was the authoritarian political movement which ruled Italy from 1922 C.E. to 1943 C.E. under the leadership of Benito Mussolini. Similar political movements, including Nazism, spread across Europe between World War I and World War II.

The most restrictive definitions of fascism include only one government, that of Mussolini in Italy. However, the term is frequently applied to Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler.

Defining feudalism requires many qualifiers because there is no broadly accepted agreement of what it means. In order to begin to understand feudalism, a working definition is desirable.

Fatah

Fatah; a reverse acronym from the Arabic name *Harakat al-Tabrir al-Watani al-Filastini* (literally: “Palestinian National Liberation Movement”) is a major Palestinian faction and the largest constituency of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), a multi-party confederation.

In the January 25, 2006 C.E. parliamentary election, the party lost its majority in the Palestinian parliament to Hamas, and resigned all cabinet positions, choosing to act as the official opposition, though it will remain as interim government until a new cabinet is framed.

The movement, which espoused a Palestinian nationalist ideology in which Palestine would be liberated by the actions of Palestinians, was founded in 1958 C.E. or 1959 C.E. by members of the Palestinian diaspora — principally refugees. The most notable of these was Yasser Arafat, who was head of the Palestinian student movement in Cairo from 1952 C.E. to 1956 C.E. Fatah became the dominant force in Palestinian politics after the 1967 C.E. Six-Day War.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is a Federal criminal investigative and intelligence agency which is the principal investigative arm of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Title 28, United States Code (U.S. Code), Section 533, which authorizes the Attorney General to “appoint officials to detect... crimes against the United States”, and other federal statutes give the FBI the authority and responsibility to investigate specific crimes. At present, the FBI has the broadest investigative authority of any federal law enforcement
Feudalism

**Feudalism** refers to a general set of reciprocal legal and military obligations among the warrior nobility of Europe during the Middle Ages, revolving around the three key concepts of lords, vassals, and fiefs.

Defining feudalism requires many qualifiers because there is no broadly accepted agreement of what it means.

Since at least the 1960s many medieval historians have included a broader social aspect, adding the peasantry bonds of Manorialism, referred to as a "feudal society". Still others, since the 1970s, have re-examined the evidence and concluded that feudalism is an unworkable term and should be removed entirely from scholarly and educational discussion, or at least only used with severe qualification and warning.

Outside of a European context, the concept of feudalism is normally only used by analogy, most often in discussions of Japan under the shoguns, and, sometimes, nineteenth-century Ethiopia. However, some have taken the feudalism analogy further, seeing it in places as diverse as Ancient Egypt, Parthian empire, India, to the American South of the nineteenth century C.E.

The word "feudalism" was invented in the seventeenth century, based on the Late Latin *feudum*, which was borrowed from Germanic *febu*, a commonly used term in the Middle Ages for a fief (land held under certain obligations by *feodati*). Even though the word components are from the Middle Ages, the concept of feudalism was not invented until the seventeenth century, the modern era.

Three elements existed and characterize the period: lords, vassals and fiefs. Feudalism is defined by how these three elements fit together. A lord was a noble who owned land. A vassal was a person who was loaned land by the lord. The land was known as a fief. In exchange for the fief, the vassal would provide military service to the lord. The obligations and relations between lord, vassal and fief form the basis of feudalism.

The word *feudalism* was not a medieval term. It was invented by French and English lawyers in the seventeenth century C.E. to describe certain traditional obligations between members of the warrior aristocracy. The term first reached a popular and wide audience in Montesquieu’s *De L’Esprit des Lois* (The Spirit of the Laws) in 1748 C.E. Since then it has been redefined and used by many different people in different ways.

**Hamas**

*Hamas* is a Palestinian Islamist organization created in 1987 C.E. to
further its goal of re-taking a Palestinian state in the area that is now ‘Israel’, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. Hamas has created an extensive network of social welfare programs throughout the West Bank and Gaza, explaining part of its popularity. The group is listed as a terrorist organization by Australia, Canada, the European Union, Israel, and the United States.

In 2006 C.E., Hamas became the majority party of the Palestinian Authority Legislative Council, having won a majority of seats in Palestinian elections. Following the organization’s victory in the elections, the Quartet on the Middle East (the EU, US, Russia and the UN) announced no future aid to the Palestinians till Hamas accept their terms.

Amongst many other things, Hamas reiterates the group’s rejection of the coexistence principle of the peace process in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In 2005 C.E., Hamas announced its intention to launch an experimental TV channel, “Al-Aqsa”. The station was launched on January 7, 2006 C.E., less than three weeks before the Palestinian legislative elections. It included a TV show for children.

Hellenism

The term Hellenistic (derived from Hélên, the Greeks’ traditional self-described ethnic name) was established by the German historian Johann Gustav Droysen to refer to the spreading of Greek culture over the non-Greek peoples that were conquered by Alexander the Great. According to Droysen, the Hellenistic civilisation was a fusion of Greek and Oriental culture that eventually gave Christianity the opportunity to flourish. The main cultural centers expanded from mainland Greece, to Pergamon, Rhodes, Antioch and Alexandria.

Modern historians see the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC as the beginning of the Hellenistic period.

Hizbullah

Hizbullah (Arabic, meaning Party of God) is a Shi’a Islamist group in Lebanon founded in 1982 C.E. to fight the Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon. It is regarded by many in the Arab and Muslim world as a legitimate resistance movement and political party in Lebanon. However, the United States and various other governments regard it as a ‘millitant’ organization. In addition to its military wing, Hizbullah maintains a civilian arm, which runs hospitals, news services, educational facilities and participates in the Lebanese Parliament and recently it was represented in the 2005 C.E. government.

HREOC

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) is a national independent statutory body of the Australian Government. It has the
responsibility for investigating alleged infringements under Australia's anti-discrimination legislation. According to its website, matters that can be investigated by the Commission include "discrimination on the grounds of race, colour or ethnic origin, racial vilification, sex, sexual harassment, marital status, pregnancy, or disability".

**IAEA**

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), established as an autonomous organization on July 29, 1957 C.E., seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to inhibit its use for military purposes. United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower envisioned, in his "Atoms for Peace" speech before the UN General Assembly in 1953 C.E., the creation of this international body to control and develop the use of atomic energy.

**Idealism**

Idealism is an approach to philosophical enquiry. As a basis for cosmology, or an approach to understanding the existence, idealism is often contrasted with materialism, both belonging to the class of monist as opposed to dualist or pluralist ontologies. The approach to idealism by Western philosophers has been different from that of Eastern thinkers. In western thought the ideal, generally relates to direct knowledge of subjective mental ideas, or images. It is then usually juxtaposed with realism in which the real is said to have absolute existence prior to and independent of our knowledge.

**Imperialism**

Imperialism is a policy of extending control or authority over foreign entities as a means of acquisition and/or maintenance of empires, either through direct territorial conquest or through indirect methods of exerting control on the politics and/or economy of other countries. The term is often used to describe the policy of a country in maintaining colonies and dominance over distant lands, regardless of whether the country calls itself an empire.

**Individualism**

Individualism is a moral, political, and social philosophy, which emphasizes individual liberty, the primary importance of the individual, and the "virtues of self-reliance" and "personal independence". Individualism embraces opposition to authority, and to all manner of controls over the individual, especially when exercised by the political state or "society". It is thus directly opposed to collectivism, which advocates subordination of the individual to the will of the society or community. It is often confused with "egoism", but an individualist need not be an egoist.
International Monetary Fund

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is the international organization entrusted with overseeing the global financial system by monitoring exchange rates and balance of payments, as well as offering technical and financial assistance when asked.

The IMF describes itself as: "an organization of 184 countries, working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty". With the exception of North Korea, Cuba, Liechtenstein, Andorra, Monaco, Tuvalu and Nauru, all UN member states either participate directly in the IMF or are represented by other member states.

As World War II came to a close, the leading allied countries considered various plans to restore order to international monetary relations, and at the Bretton Woods conference the IMF emerged. The founding members drafted a charter (or Articles of Agreement) of an international institution to oversee the international monetary system and to promote both the elimination of exchange restrictions relating to trade in goods and services, and the stability of exchange rates.

The IMF came into existence in December 1945 C.E., when the first 29 countries signed its Articles of Agreement. The statutory purposes of the IMF today are the same as when they were formulated in 1944 C.E. From the end of World War II until the late-1970s, the capitalist world experienced unprecedented growth in real incomes. (Since then, China’s integration into the capitalist system has added substantially to the growth of the system.) Within the capitalist system, the benefits of growth have not flowed equally to all (either within or among nations) but most capitalist countries have seen recent increases in prosperity that contrast starkly with the conditions within capitalist countries during the interwar period. The lack of a recurring global depression is likely due to improvements in the conduct of international economic policies that have encouraged the growth of international trade and helped smooth the economic cycle of boom and bust.

Agreement for the creation of the International Monetary Fund came at the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States, on July 22, 1944 C.E. The principal architects of the IMF at the conference were British economist John Maynard Keynes and the chief international economist at the US Treasury Department, Harry Dexter White. The Articles of Agreement came into force on December 27, 1945 C.E., the organization came into existence on May 1, 1946 C.E., as part of a post-WWII reconstruction plan, and it began financial operations on March 1, 1947 C.E.

The IMF's influence in the global economy steadily increased as it accumulated more members. The number of IMF member countries has more
than quadrupled from the 44 states involved in its establishment, reflecting in particular the attainment of political independence by many developing countries and more recently the collapse of the Soviet bloc. The expansion of the IMF's membership, together with the changes in the world economy, have required the IMF to adapt in a variety of ways to continue serving its purposes effectively.

**Iranian National Front**

The National Front of Iran (Jebbe Melli) is a political opposition party founded by Mohammad Mossadegh and other Iranian nationalist leaders in the late 1940s. It is currently active both in Iran and in exile.

Soon after its foundation, the National Front formed an important coalition of political parties that supported the nationalization of the oil industry, which at the time was dominated by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, and other democratic reforms. Upon taking office in April of 1951 C.E., Prime Minister Mossadegh enforced the Oil Nationalization Act, passed by the Majlis earlier that year in March, which called for nationalizing AIOC’s assets. This led to the eventual British-American sponsored coup d'état against Mossadegh in 1953 C.E.

**Jama'at-i-Islami**

Jama'at-i-Islami ("Islamic Assembly" Jama'at, JI) was an Islamic political movement founded in South Asia by Sayyid Abul Ala Mawdudi in 1941 C.E. Today it is one of the largest components of the coalition of religious parties, the Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal, in Pakistan. Members are often referred to, usually by others, as Jama'atis. The latter is also used as an adjective for certain political viewpoint or attitude.

The jama'at is very active in the field of da'wah, tarbiyah (training) and tanzim (organization) almost in all the areas of Pakistan. It has a strong body in each province which is further divided in cities/zones and sectors.

Jama'at has also its unions for Doctors, teachers and workers and the same is in the female wing of jama'at Halqa Khawateen The jama'at is accused of worsening the political situation in Pakistan by engaging in muscular politics. The Tanzeem-i-Islami is headed by Dr. Israr Ahmed is an offshoot of Jama'at -i-Islami.

In the legislative elections of Pakistan on October 20, 2002 C.E., Jama'at-i-Islami got 11.3% of the popular vote and 53 out of 272 elected members.

**Jemaah Islamiyah**

Jemaah Islamiyah, sometimes rendered Jemaah Islamiiah, is an Islamic organization in particular Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia, and the south of Thailand and the Philippines. Jemaah Islamiyah means "Islamic Group" or "Islamic Community" and is often abbreviated JI.

The U.S. State Department designated Jemaah Islamiyah as a Foreign
‘Militant’ Organization. Jemaah Islamiyah is also suspected of carrying out the Zamboanga bombings, the Metro Manila bombings, the 2004 C.E. Jakarta embassy bombing and the 2005 C.E. Bali bombing.

League of Nations

The League of Nations was an international organization founded after the Paris Peace Conference of 1919 C.E. The League’s goals included disarmament; preventing war through collective security; settling disputes between countries through negotiation and diplomacy; and improving global welfare. The diplomatic philosophy behind the League represented a fundamental shift in thought from the preceding hundred years.

The League was a government of governments, with the role of settling disputes between individual nations in an open and legalist forum. The impetus for the founding of the League came from Democratic U.S. President Woodrow Wilson although the United States never joined the League of Nations.

Leninism

Leninism is a political and economic theory which builds upon Marxism, the most prominent form of communism, and is a branch in its own right. It describes the ideas developed mainly by the Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin, and it was also put into practice by him after the Russian Revolution. The term Leninism came into widespread use only after Lenin’s stroke ended his active participation in the Soviet government. Zinoviev popularised the term at the fifth congress of the Communist International. Since the mid-1920s, most Marxists have described themselves as Leninist.

Likud

Likud (literally means “consolidation”) is a right-wing political party in Israel. The Likud’s roots are in Zeev Jabotinsky’s Revisionist Zionist movement which became the Herut party and was the main opposition to the Labour Zionist Mapai party.

The Likud promotes a revival of Jewish-oriented culture, in keeping with the principles of revisionist Zionism.

Lutheranism

Lutheranism is a Christian tradition committed to the main theological insights of Martin Luther. It is numerically the third largest single Christian movement, with an estimated 82.6 million people belonging to the various congregations, bodies, and churches which call themselves Lutheran.

Luther’s insights are generally held to have been a major foundation of the Protestant movement. The relationship between Lutheranism and the Protestant
tradition is, however, ambiguous: some Lutherans consider Lutheranism to be outside the Protestant tradition, while most see it as part of this tradition.

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada states it: "We derive our teachings from the Holy Scriptures and confess the three ecumenical creeds of the Christian church. We hold to orthodox catholic theology as enunciated in the ecumenical councils of the first five centuries of Christianity”.

Majoritarianism

Majoritarianism is a political philosophy or agenda which asserts that a majority (sometimes categorized by religion, language or some other identifying factor) of the population is entitled to a certain degree of primacy in society, and has the right to make decisions that affect the society. Under a majoritarian political structure the majority has a single restriction — it is not allowed to exclude any minority from future participation in the democratic process.

Majoritarianism is sometimes pejoratively called ochlocracy (commonly stated as mob rule) or tyranny of the majority by its opponents.

Marxism

Marxism is the social theory and political practice based on the works of Karl Marx, a nineteenth century C.E. German philosopher, economist, journalist, and revolutionary. Other than control by the working class, Marx laid out no plans for the structuring of a communist society or of the society that the working class would build on the way to communism. He assumed the working class could do that for themselves and that it would be a productive society able to meet the needs of the people and much more.

Meritocracy

Meritocracy is the “rule by those who most deserve to rule”. While this has on the surface a nearly similar meaning to “aristocracy”, the term “meritocracy” has usually implied a much more fluid form of government in which one is not considered “best” for life, but must continually prove one’s “merit” in order to stay in power.

Monarchy

A monarchy, (from the Greek monos, “one”, and archein, “to rule”) is a form of government that has a monarch as Head of State. One of the distinguishing characteristics of monarchy is that the Head of State usually reigns for life; in a republic, the Head of State (often called the president) is normally elected for a certain amount of time.

The term monarchy is also used to refer to the people (especially the dynasty, also known as ‘royalty’) and institutions that make up the royal or
imperial establishment, or to the realm over which the monarch reigns. In most monarchies, the monarch serves as a symbol of continuity and statehood.

Moro Islamic Liberation Front

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) is an active Islamic movement in the Southern Philippines. The area is called by the MILF Bangsamoro and covers southern portion of Mindanao, the Sulu Archipelago, Palawan, Basilan and the neighbouring islands around one third of the Philippines in total.

MILF activists are engaged in a jihad against the Manila colonial government, a continuation of a struggle dating back to the Spanish arrival in 1521 C.E. The government is charged of running a settlement program to bring in Christians and remove Muslims from local government posts, it has also been accused of genocide against the Moro Muslims.

National Islamic Front

The National Islamic Front (Arabic transliterated: al-Jabhah al-Islamiyah al-Qawmiyah) is the political organization that controls Sudan. It supports the maintenance of an Islamic state run on shari'ah and rejects the concept of a secular state. While its legal front is the political party, the National Congress, there is little actual distinction between the two. It is nominally led by President Umar Hassan al-Bashir.

Created in the 1960s as an Islamist student group, it was known as the Islamic Charter Front. From 1964 C.E. to 1969 C.E. it was headed by Hassan al-Turabi after the overthrow of the government of President Ibrahim Abboud.

After 9-11 the regime made attempts to downplay, in least on the public international stage, any international Islamist aspects of the organization. Further Turabi was imprisoned in 2004 C.E. and the regime allowed the Christian John Garang to be Vice President in a 'peace deal. However abuses in Darfur have gained note and the government is still dominated by high ranking members of the NIF.

Nationalism

Nationalism is an ideology which holds that the nation, ethnicity or national identity is a “fundamental unit” of human social life, and makes certain cultural and political claims based upon that belief; in particular, the claim that the nation is “the only legitimate basis for the state”, and that “each nation is entitled to its own state”. Nationalism should nevertheless be distinguished from patriotism, since the former focuses on the national community that is situated, for the most part, within civil society while the latter stresses instead the civic or political community, that which is expressed by a state or government.
NATO

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), sometimes called North Atlantic Alliance, Atlantic Alliance or the Western Alliance, is an international organisation for defence collaboration established in 1949 C.E., in support of the North Atlantic Treaty signed in Washington, D.C., on April 4, 1949 C.E. Its headquarters are located in Brussels, Belgium. Its other official name is the French equivalent, l’Organisation du Traité de l’Atlantique du Nord (OTAN).

The core of NATO is Article V of the NATO Treaty, which states:

The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all. Consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognised by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area.

This provision was intended so that if the USSR and its allies launched an attack against any of the NATO members, it would be treated as if it was an attack on all member states. This marked a significant change for the United States, which had traditionally favoured isolationist policies. However, the feared invasion of Western Europe never came. Instead, the provision was invoked for the first time in the treaty’s history on September 12, 2001 C.E., in response to the 11 September attacks on the United States the day before. NATO Summit 2006 C.E. would take place in Latvia.

Founding members (April 4, 1949 C.E.)

Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, withdraws in 1966 C.E. from the integrated command and all foreign NATO forces leave France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States.

Nazism

Nazism was the ideology held by the National Socialist German Workers Party (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei, commonly called NSDAP or the Nazi Party), which was led by its Führer (leader), Adolf Hitler. The word Nazism is most often used in connection with the dictatorship of Nazi Germany from 1933 C.E. to 1945 C.E. (the “Third Reich”), and it is derived from the term National Socialism (German: Nationalsozialismus, often abbreviated NS). Adherents of the Nazi ideology held that the Aryan race were superior to other races, and they promoted Germanic racial supremacy and a strong, centrally governed state. Nazism has been outlawed in modern Germany, yet small remnants and revivalists, known as “Neo-Nazis”, continue to operate in Germany and abroad.

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Nihilism

Nihilism as a philosophical position argues that the world, and especially human existence, is without objective meaning, purpose, comprehensible truth, or essential value. Nihilists generally believe all of the following: God doesn't exist, traditional morality is false, and secular ethics are impossible; therefore, life has no meaning, and no action is preferable to any other.

Oligarchy

Oligarchy is a political regime where most or all political power effectively rests with a small segment of society (typically the most powerful, whether by wealth, family, military strength, ruthlessness, or political influence). The word oligarchy is from the Greek words for “few” (oligo) and “rule” (arkhos). Some political theorists have argued that all governments are inevitably oligarchies no matter the supposed political system.

Oligarchies are often controlled by a few powerful families whose children are raised and mentored to be heirs of the power of the oligarchy, often at some sort of expense to those governed.

Organization of American States

The Organization of American States (OAS; OEA in the other three official languages) is an international organization, headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States. Its members are the 35 independent nations of the Americas.

In the words of Article 1 of the Charter, the goal of the member nations in creating the OAS was “to achieve an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity, and their independence”.

Organization of Islamic Conference

The Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC; Arabic: Munzimat al-Mu'tamar al-Islami) is an inter-governmental organization with a Permanent Delegation to the United Nations. It groups 57 mostly Islamic nations in the Middle East, North and West Africa, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Indian subcontinent, (with the exceptions of Albania, Guyana, and Surinam). The OIC is dedicated to serving the interests of the world’s estimated 1.4 billion Muslims.

Palestine Liberation Organization

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) (Arabic: Munazzamat al-Tahrir al-Filastiniyyah or Munazzamat al-Tahrir al-Falastiniyyah) is a political and paramilitary organization of Palestinians dedicated to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the region historically known as Palestine. From
the organization’s establishment in 1964 C.E. until the end of the 1980s its primary goals were political representation of the Palestinian people and destruction of the ‘state of Israel’. In 1993 C.E. the chairman of the PLO, Yasser Arafat, recognized the ‘state of Israel’ in an official letter to its prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin. In response, Israel recognized the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Arafat was the Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee from 1969 C.E. until his death in 2004 C.E. He was succeeded by Mahmoud Abbas (also known as Abu Mazen). PLO lost the elections to Hamas in January, 2006 C.E.

Founded in 1964 C.E., the PLO has a nominal legislative body, the Palestinian National Council (PNC), but most actual political power and decisions are controlled by the PLO Executive Committee, made up of 15 people elected by the PNC. The PLO incorporates a range of generally secular ideologies of different Palestinian movements committed to the struggle for Palestinian independence and “liberation”, hence the name of the organization. The Palestine Liberation Organization is considered the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and holds a permanent observer seat in the UN General Assembly.

The Arab League on Cairo Summit 1964 C.E. initiated the creation of an organisation representing the Palestinian people. The Palestinian National Council convened in Jerusalem on 29 May 1964 C.E. Concluding this meeting the PLO was founded on 2 June 1964 C.E. Its ‘Statement of Proclamation of the Organization’ declared “... the right of the Palestinian Arab people to its sacred homeland Palestine and affirming the inevitability of the battle to liberate the usurped part from it, and its determination to bring out its effective revolutionary entity and the mobilization of the capabilities and potentialities and its material, military and spiritual forces”.

**Palestinian National Authority**

The Palestinian National Authority (PNA or PA; Arabic: As-Sulta Al-Wataniyya Al-Filastiniyya Hebrew: Harashut Hafalastinit) is an interim administrative organization that nominally governs parts of the West Bank and all of the Gaza Strip (which are part of the Palestinian Territories).

The Palestinian National Authority was established in 1994 C.E., pursuant to the Oslo accords between the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the government of Israel, as a 5-year transitional body during which final status negotiations between the two parties were to take place.

The Palestinian Authority enjoys international recognition as the organization representing the Palestinian people. Under the name “Palestine”, it has an observer status in the United Nations (UN), as did the PLO since 1974 C.E. After the 1988 C.E. Palestinian Declaration of Independence, the PLO’s representation at the UN was renamed Palestine; it participates in General
Assembly debates, without voting, since 1998 C.E., and was recognized by Israel as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian People in the Oslo Accords.

**Palestinian National Council**

The **Palestinian National Council** (PNC) is the parliament in exile of the Palestinian people. The PNC elects an Executive Committee which assumes leadership of the organization between its sessions. The Council normally meets every two years. Resolutions are passed by a simple majority with a quorum of two-thirds.

The first PNC, composed of 422 representatives, met in Jerusalem in May 1964 C.E. and adopted the Palestinian National Covenant (also called Palestinian National Charter). It also established the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) as the political expression of the Palestinian people and elected Ahmad Al-Shuqeiry as the first chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

**Plutocracy**

Plutocracy is the “rule by the wealthy”. In actual practice, aristocrats are often just plutocrats whose wealth allows them to portray their own virtues as the “best” ones.

**Populism**

Populism is a political philosophy or rhetorical style that holds that the common person’s interests are oppressed or hindered by the elite in society, and that the instruments of the state need to be grasped from this self-serving elite and used for the benefit and advancement of the people as a whole. Hence a populist is one who is perceived to craft their rhetoric as appeals to the economic, social, and common sense concerns of average people. Most scholarship on populism since 1980 C.E. has discussed it as a rhetorical style that can be used to promote a variety of ideologies.

**Primitivism**

Primitivism is an artistic movement that looks to early human history and non-Western or children’s art for inspiration and makes use of themes or stylistic elements from prehistory and tribal cultures. Paul Gauguin (painting) and early Igor Stravinsky (music) are two of the important representatives of this movement.

**RAND**

The **RAND Corporation** — Research and Development — is an American think tank first formed to offer research and analysis to the United States armed forces. The organization has since expanded to working with other governments.
and commercial organizations. RAND has around 1600 employees based at six sites: Santa Monica, in California, Arlington in Virginia, Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, as well in Europe: Leiden in the Netherlands, Berlin in Germany and Cambridge in United Kingdom. In 2003 C.E., it opened the RAND-Qatar Policy Institute in Doha.

Realism

Realism is commonly defined as a concern for fact or reality and rejection of the impractical and visionary. However, the term realism is used, with varying meanings, in several of the liberal arts; particularly painting, literature, and philosophy. It is also used in international relations. In philosophy, realism is the view that there is an external world that exists independent of our perception of it.

SAVAK

SAVAK (Persian short for Sazeman-i Ittelaat va Amniyat-i Keshvar, Organization for Intelligence and National Security) was the domestic security and intelligence service of Iran from 1957 C.E. - 1979 C.E.

SAVAK was founded in 1957 C.E. with the assistance of the CIA and the Israeli Mossad. Its mission was to protect the Shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi of Iran, and control opposition, especially political opposition. Its first director was General Teymur Bakhtiar, who was replaced by General Hassan Pakravan in 1961 C.E. and later assassinated on the Shah's orders. The organization was closed down by Islamic Revolution.

Secularism

Secularism is commonly defined as the idea that religion should not interfere with or be integrated into the public affairs of a society. It is often associated with the Age of Enlightenment in Europe, and plays a major role in Western society. The principles of separation of church and state in the United States and laïcité in France draw heavily on secularism.

As secularism is often used in different contexts, its precise definition can vary from place to place. In philosophy, secularism is the belief that life can be best lived by applying ethics, and the universe best understood, by processes of reasoning, without reference to a god or gods or other supernatural concepts. Secularism in this sense was coined by George Jacob Holyoake and is one of the precursors of modern secular humanism.

Socialism

Socialism is an ideology of a social and economic system where the means of production are collectively owned and administered by all of society. Amongst
other things, this is intended to produce a more evenly spread distribution of wealth. The idea of abolition of private property became a part of the idea in the early nineteenth century C.E. How this democratic society should be run exactly and how it should be implemented or achieved is a matter of controversy and has resulted in many branches of socialism and related ideas.

In Marxist theory, it also refers to the society that would succeed or supplant capitalism, and would later develop further into communism, where the state would wither away.

**STRATCOM**

**United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM)** is one of nine unified commands of the United States Department of Defense which controls the nuclear weapons assets of the United States military. It is also a global integrator charged with the missions of Space Operations; Information Operations; Integrated Missile Defense; Global Command and Control; Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance; Global Strike; and Strategic Deterrence.

**Taliban**

The **Taliban** (Arabic singular, “seeker” or “student” of knowledge), is a Sunni Islamist nationalist Movement which effectively ruled most of Afghanistan from 1996 C.E. until 2001 C.E., despite having diplomatic recognition from only three countries: the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, as well as the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria. The most influential members, including Mullah Muhammad Umar, the leader of the Movement, were Islamic religious scholars. The **Taliban** movement derived mainly from Pashtuns of Afghanistan and North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) of Pakistan, but also included many non-Afghan volunteers from the Arab world, as well as Eurasia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.

When the **Taliban** came to power, Usama bin Laden was able to forge an alliance between the **Taliban** and his al-Qa'ida organization.

The UN Security Council, on January 16, 2002 C.E., unanimously established an arms embargo and the freezing of identifiable assets belonging to Bin Laden, al-Qa'ida, and the remaining **Taliban**.

**Tudeh Party of Iran**

The **Tudeh Party of Iran** is an Iranian communist party founded in 1941 C.E. Its full name (Hizb-i-Tudeh-ye Iran) translates to “Masses Party of Iran”. It had close relations with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Tudeh was a major political party in Iran, prior to the purges of the Islamic Revolution.

However, the party managed to survive and continues to operate as an underground political organization in Iran, with the new Central Committee,
elected in 1992 C.E., based in exile. It is currently led by Ali Khavari.

**United Nations**

The name “United Nations”, coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was first used in the “Declaration by United Nations” of 1 January 1942 C.E., during the Second World War, when representatives of 26 nations pledged their Governments to continue fighting together against the Axis Powers.

States first established international organizations to cooperate on specific matters. The International Telecommunication Union was founded in 1865 C.E. as the International Telegraph Union, and the Universal Postal Union was established in 1874 C.E. Both are now United Nations specialized agencies.

The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945 C.E., when the Charter had been ratified at the conclusion of World War II, by the victorious world powers, China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and by a majority of other signatories. United Nations Day is celebrated on 24 October each year.

The UN describes itself as a “global association of governments facilitating cooperation in international law, international security, economic development, and social equity”. It was founded by 51 states and as of 2005 C.E. it consists of 191 member states, including virtually all internationally-recognized independent nations, with the exception of Vatican City, which has declined membership, and the Republic of China, whose membership was superseded by the People’s Republic of China in 1971 C.E. From its headquarters in New York City, the member countries of the UN and its specialized agencies give guidance and make decisions on substantive and administrative issues in regular meetings held throughout each year. The organization’s most visible public figure is the Secretary-General.

**Official languages** English, Chinese, Arabic, French, Russian, Spanish

**Secretary-General** Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General since 1997 C.E.

**Headquarters** New York City, NY, USA


The United Nations headquarters building was constructed in New York City in 1949 C.E. and 1950 C.E. beside the East River and officially opened on January 9, 1951 C.E.

The United Nations is based on six principal organs, part of what is collectively called the United Nations System:

- UN General Assembly
- UN Security Council

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UN Economic and Social Council
UN Trusteeship Council
UN Secretariat
International Court of Justice

The UN promotes human development through various agencies and departments:

- World Health Organization eliminated smallpox in 1977 and is close to eliminating polio.
- World Bank / International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNCF)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

World Bank Group

The World Bank Group is a group of five international organizations responsible for providing finance to countries for purposes of development and poverty reduction, and for encouraging and safeguarding international investment. The group and its affiliates are headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Together with the separate International Monetary Fund, the World Bank organizations are sometimes called the Bretton Woods institutions, after Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, where the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference that led to their establishment took place (1 July - 22 July 1944 C.E.).

The Bank came into formal existence on 27 December 1945 C.E. following international ratification of the Bretton Woods agreements. Commencing operations on 25 June 1946 C.E., it approved its first loan on 9 May 1947 C.E. ($250m to France for postwar reconstruction, in real terms the largest loan issued by the Bank to date). Its five agencies are the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), International Development Association (IDA), Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

The World Bank's activities are currently focused on less economically developed countries in fields such as education, agriculture and industry. Nevertheless the World Bank is one of the most highly-regarded financial institutions in the world, especially in the field of developmental economics and
related research. Technically the World Bank is part of the United Nations system.

As a result, the World Bank is controlled primarily by developed countries, while clients have almost exclusively been developing countries. Some critics argue that a different governance structure would take greater account of developing countries' needs. As of November 1, 2004 C.E. the United States held 16.4% of total votes, Japan 7.9%, Germany 4.5% and UK and France each held 4.3%. As major decisions require an 85% super-majority, the US can block any change.

The World Bank Group is headed by Paul Wolfowitz, appointed on June 1, 2005 C.E. Wolfowitz, a former United States Deputy Secretary of Defense and well-known neo-conservative, was nominated by George W. Bush to replace James D. Wolfensohn. By convention, the Bank president has always been a US citizen, while the Managing Director of the IMF has been a European.

**World Trade Center**

World trade centers or world trade centres (usually abbreviated WTC) arose in the United States and Japan in the 1970s, spearheaded by New York City's World Trade Center.

The World Trade Centers Association founded in 1970 C.E. and based in New York City, is an organization of nearly 300 world trade centers in almost 100 countries. The WTCA is an unofficial umbrella trade association that brings together corporations and government agencies involved in international trade.

**World Trade Organization**

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an international, multilateral organization which sets the rules for the global trading system and resolves disputes between its member states, all of whom are signatories to its about 30 agreements.

WTO headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland. Pascal Lamy is the current Director-General, taking over from the previous Director-General Supachai Panitchpakdi on September 1, 2005 C.E. As of December 15, 2005 C.E., there are 150 members in the organization, with the Kingdom of Tonga becoming the 150th member. All WTO members are required to grant one another mostfavoured nation status, such that (with some exceptions) trade concessions granted by a WTO member to another country must be granted to all WTO members (WTO, 2004 C.E.).

The Bretton Woods Conference of 1944 C.E. proposed the creation of an International Trade Organization (ITO) to establish rules and regulations for trade between countries. The ITO charter was agreed at the UN Conference on Trade and Employment in Havana in March 1948 C.E., but was blocked by the
U.S. Senate. Some historians have argued that the failure may have resulted from fears within the American business community that the International Trade Organization could be used to regulate, rather than liberate, big business.

Only one element of the ITO survived: the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Seven rounds of negotiations occurred under GATT before the eighth round — the Uruguay Round — concluded in 1995 C.E. with the establishment of the WTO as the GATT’s replacement. The GATT principles and agreements were adopted by the WTO, which was charged with administering and extending them. Unlike the GATT, the WTO has a substantial institutional structure.

The WTO aims to encourage smooth and free trade by promoting lower trade barriers and providing a platform for the negotiation of trade and to resolve disputes between member nations, when they arise. The goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business.

Since its inception in 1995 C.E., the WTO has been a major target for protests by the anti-globalization movement.

Zionism

The word “Zionism” is derived from the word “Zion” (Hebrew: Tziyyon), one of the names of Jerusalem, as mentioned in the Bible. It was coined as a term for Jewish nationalism by Austrian Jewish publisher Nathan Birnbaum in his journal Self Emancipation in 1890 C.E.

Zionism is a political movement and an ideology that supports a Jewish homeland in the Land of Palestine, where the Jewish nation is believed to have ‘originated’ and where Jewish kingdoms and self-governing states existed at various times in history. While Zionism is based heavily upon religious tradition linking the Jewish people to the Land of Palestine, the modern movement was originally secular, beginning largely as a response to rampant antisemitism in late nineteenth century C.E. Europe.

The Zionist movement acquired British and League of Nations sponsorship after World War I, resulting in the creation of the British Mandate of Palestine, which specifically called for “placing the country under such political, administrative and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish national home”. After an often tumultuous Mandate period, and after the Holocaust had destroyed Jewish society in Europe, the Zionist movement culminated in the establishment of the State of Israel in Palestine in 1948 C.E.

Since the founding of the ‘State of Israel’ in Palestine, the term Zionism has come generally to mean support for Israel. The term Zionism is also sometimes used retroactively to describe the millennia-old Biblical connection between the Jewish people and the ‘Land of Israel’ in Palestine, which existed long before the birth of the modern Zionist movement. The label Zionist is also used improperly
as a euphemism for Jews in general by those wishing to white-wash anti-Semitism (as in the Polish anti-Zionist campaign). Similarly, anti-Zionism as a political movement often is interpreted improperly as anti-Semitism.

In addition to Jewish Zionism, there was always a small number of Christian Zionists that existed from the early days of the Zionist movement. According to Prof. Charles Merkley from Carleton University, Christian Zionism strengthened significantly after the 1967 C.E. Six Day War, and many Dispensationalist Christians, especially in the United States, now strongly support Jewish Zionism.

**Establishment of the Zionist movement**

The desire of Jews to return to their ancestral homeland has remained a universal Jewish theme ever since the defeat of the Great Jewish Revolt, and the destruction of Jerusalem by the Roman Empire in the year 70, the defeat of Bar Kochba's revolt in 135 CE, and the dispersal of the Jews to other parts of the Empire that followed.

The Haskala of Jews in European countries in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries following the French Revolution, and the spread of Western liberal ideas among a section of newly emancipated Jews, created for the first time a class of secular Jews, who absorbed the prevailing ideas of rationalism, romanticism and, most importantly, nationalism. Jews who had abandoned Judaism, at least in its traditional forms, began to develop a new Jewish identity, as a "nation" in the European sense.

Before the 1890s there had already been attempts to settle Jews in Palestine, which was in the nineteenth century C.E. a part of the Ottoman Empire, inhabited (in 1890 C.E.) by about 520,000 people, mostly Muslim and Christian Arabs but including 20-25,000 Jews. Pogroms in Russia led Jewish philanthropists such as the Montefiores and the Rothschilds to sponsor agricultural settlements for Russian Jews in Palestine in the late 1870s, culminating in a small group of immigrants from Russia arriving in the country in 1882 C.E. This has become known in Zionist history as the First Aliyah (aliyah is a Hebrew word meaning "ascent", referring to the act of spiritually "ascending" to the Holy Land. In modern Hebrew, this word is used in place of an equivalent to "immigration").

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Miscellanea

Aristocracy

The Ancient Greek term aristocracy meant a system of government with “rule by the best”. This is the first definition given in most dictionaries. The word is derived from two words, "aristo" meaning the “best” and “kratia” “to rule”. Because everyone has different ideas about what is “best”, especially in relation to government, the term is tricky to apply in this sense. Aristocracies have most often been hereditary plutocracies, where a sense of historical gravitas and noblesse oblige demands high minded action from its members.

Autocracy

Rule by a single individual.

Axis of Evil

The term “axis of evil” was used by United States President George W. Bush in his State of the Union Address on January 29, 2002 C.E. to describe “regimes that sponsor terror”. Bush named Iraq, Iran, and North Korea in his speech.

Axis Powers

The Axis Powers were those nations opposed to the Allies during the Second World War. The three major Axis Powers, Nazi Germany, under Führer and Chancellor Adolf Hitler (and in the last days of the war, Hitler’s designated successor, President and Chancellor Karl Dönitz); Fascist Italy (until September 8, 1943 C.E.), under Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini who ruled Italy in the name of King Victor Emmanuel III of the House of Savoy. Afterwards, Victor Emmanuel III led it as a Western Allied Nation and Imperial Japan, under Emperor Hirohito and Prime Minister Hideki Tojo (and in the last days of the war, Prime Ministers Kuniaki Koiso and Kantaro Suzuki), referred to themselves as the “Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis”. At their zenith, the Axis Powers ruled empires that dominated large parts of Europe, Asia and the Pacific Ocean, but the Second World War ended with their total defeat. Like the Allies, membership of the Axis was fluid, and some nations entered and later left the Axis during the course of the war.

The term was first used by Benito Mussolini, in November 1936 C.E., when he spoke of a Rome-Berlin axis arising out of the treaty of friendship signed between Italy and Germany on October 25, 1936 C.E. Mussolini declared that the two countries would form an “axis” around which the other states of Europe would revolve. This treaty was forged when Fascist Italy, originally opposed to Nazi Germany, was faced with opposition to its war in Abyssinia from the
Bantustan

Bantustan refers to any of the territories designated as tribal "homelands" for black South Africans and Namibians during the apartheid era. The term "bantustan" was first used in the late 1940s and was coined from Bantu (meaning "people" in the Bantu languages) and -stan (meaning "land of" in the Persian language, equivalent to the Latin ending -ia and the Germanic -land). It was based on Hindustan, a term used to refer to the land beyond the Indus/Sindhu India. It was a disparaging term used by critics of the apartheid-era government's "homelands".

The word "bantustan" is often used in a pejorative sense when describing a country or region that lacks any real legitimacy or power, and that sometimes emerges from national or international gerrymandering. It has been used particularly by opponents of Israeli policies towards the Palestinian populations of the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Black Nobility of Europe

The "black nobility" of Europe actually have blue blood that is not haemoglobin based but copper based. They are semi-human. There was a problem with haemophilia and not because of intermarrying. The problem was that they started to marry outside of the copper based blood system. They don't mix. This is where the laws against marrying commoners originated. This may tie in with the work of David Icke (reptilians).

These people earned the title of "Black" nobility from their ruthless lack of scruple. They employed murder, rape, kidnapping, assassination, robbery, and all manner of deceit on a grand scale, brooking no opposition to attaining their objectives. These all have immense wealth. And money is power.

The "Black Nobility" are/were the oligarchic families of Venice and Genoa, Italy, who in the twelfth century C.E. held the privileged trading rights (monopolies). The first of three crusades, from 1063 C.E. to 1123 C.E., established the power of the Venetian Black Nobility and solidified the power of the wealthy ruling class. The Black Nobility aristocracy achieved complete control over Venice in 1171 C.E., when the appointment of the Doge was transferred to what was known as the Great Council, which consisted of members of the commercial aristocracy (among them the infamous de'Medici family). Venice has remained in their hands ever since, but the power and influence of the Venetian Black Nobility extends far beyond its borders, and today it is felt in every corner of the globe.

The most powerful of the Black Nobility families are located in Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Britain, Holland and Greece in that order.
In 1948 C.E., George H.W. Bush graduated from Yale University and the Skull and Bones. He is a distant cousin of the Queen of England, part of the Black Nobility which traces its power back 5,000 years.

**Bourgeoisie**

*Bourgeoisie* (in modern use refers to the wealthy or propertied social class in a capitalist society.

*Bourgeoisie* is a French word. The early Anglicization “burgess” is derived from the old French * burgeis* (Also middle English: * burges, burges, borges* and old Dutch: *burgher* = the inhabitant of a borough or burgh). In the French feudal order, “bourgeois” was formally a legal category in society, defined by conditions such as length of residence and source of income.

In the early Middle Ages, as cities were forming, growing and emerging, artisans and tradesmen began to emerge as an economic force. They formed guilds, associations and companies to conduct business and promote their own interests. These people were the original bourgeoisie. In the late Middle Ages, they allied with the kings in uprooting the feudalist system, gradually becoming the ruling class in industrialised nation-states. In the seventeenth and eighteenth century C.E., they generally supported the American revolution and French revolution in overthrowing the laws and privileges of the absolutist feudal order, clearing the way for the rapid expansion of commerce.

**Caliph**

Accepted by Sunni Muslims and international consensus as the first four rulers; Shi'a Muslims believe that the first three were usurpers.

- Abu Bakr — r. 632 C.E. - 634 C.E.
- Umar ibn al-Khattab — r. 634 C.E. - 644 C.E.
- Uthman ibn Affan — r. 644 C.E. - 656 C.E.
- Ali ibnAbi Talib — r. 656 C.E. - 661 C.E. (the only caliph universally accepted by Sunnis and Shi'as)

**City-State**

A city-state is a region controlled exclusively by a city, and usually having sovereignty. City-states usually had their own culture though there were a few who shared.

City-states were common in ancient times. Though sovereign, many such cities joined in formal or informal leagues under a high king. In some cases historical empires or leagues were formed by the right of conquest (e.g., Mycenae, or Rome), but many were formed under peaceful alliances or for mutual
In the Middle Ages, city-states were particularly a feature of what are now Germany, Italy and Russia. A number of them formed the Hanseatic League, which was a significant force in trade for a number of centuries.

**Code of Federal Regulations**

The United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules and regulations published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

**Demos**

The common people of an ancient Greek state, such as Athens that held political power. Demos (think tank) in United States.

**Dictatorship**

Dictatorship, in contemporary usage, refers to absolute rule by a leadership (usually one dictator) unrestricted by law, constitutions, or other social and political factors within the state.

**Eastern Question**

The “Eastern Question”, in European history, encompasses the diplomatic and political problems posed by the Ottoman Empire (Turkey). The expression does not apply to any one particular problem, instead comprehending a variety of issues raised during the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, including instability in the European territories ruled by the Ottoman Empire.

The Eastern Question is normally dated to 1774 C.E., when the Russo-Turkish War ended in defeat for the Ottoman Turks. The Eastern Question was put to rest after the First World War, which brought about the collapse of the Ottoman Empire.

**Gentile**

The word Gentile from the Latin gentilis. In the most common modern use it refers to the former being derived from the Latin term gens (meaning “clan” or a “group of families”) and it is often employed in the plural. In late Latin gentilis meant “pagan”, and the term gentile has equally come to be used as a synonym for “heathen” or “pagan”.

**Globalization**

Globalization (or globalisation) refers to the worldwide phenomenon of technological, economic, political and cultural exchanges, brought about by
modern communication, transportation and legal infrastructure as well as the
political choice to consciously open cross-border links in international trade and
finance. It is a term used to describe how human beings are becoming more
intertwined with each other around the world economically, politically, and
culturally. Although these links are not new, they are more pervasive than ever
before.

House of Bernadotte

The House of Bernadotte, the current Royal House of the Kingdom of
Sweden, has reigned since 1818 C.E. Between 1818 C.E. and 1905 C.E. it was also
the Royal House of Norway.

Following the Finnish War in 1809 C.E. Sweden suffered the traumatic
loss of Finland, which had constituted the Eastern half of the Swedish realm. The
agony and resentment towards King Gustav IV Adolf precipitated a coup d'état
and Gustav Adolf's uncle, the childless Charles XIII replaced him. This was
merely a temporary solution and in 1810 C.E. the Swedish Riksdag of the Estates
chose the Marshal of France, Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte as heir apparent to the
Swedish throne.

Bernadotte, who was born in the town of Pau, in the province of Béarn,
France, had through the tumultuous French Revolution risen to become not only
one of Napoleon's generals, but also a Marshal of France and Prince of Ponte
Corvo, a town in southern Italy. He was also the brother-in-law of Napoleon's
brother, Joseph. As the Crown Prince of Sweden he assumed the name Charles
John (Karl Johan), acted officially as regent for the remainder of Charles XIII's
reign and secured a forced union between Sweden and Norway in the 1814 C.E.
Campaign against Norway. Jean-Baptiste Bernadotte reigned as King Charles XIV
of Sweden and Carl III Johan of Norway from February 5, 1818 C.E. until his
death on March 8, 1844 C.E.

Imperial Conference

Imperial Conferences were gatherings of British Empire government
leaders in London in 1887 C.E., 1897 C.E., 1902 C.E., 1907 C.E., 1911 C.E., 1921
C.E., 1923 C.E., 1926 C.E., 1930 C.E. and 1937 C.E. The 1907 C.E. conference
changed the name from "Colonial Conference" and agreed that the meetings
should henceforth be regular rather than taking place while overseas statesmen
were visiting London for royal occasions (jubilees, coronations).

Jarring Mission

The Jarring Mission refers to efforts undertaken by Gunnar Jarring on
behalf of the United Nations Secretary General, U Thant, to ensure progress on
implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 242 following the Six-Day
War in 1967 C.E.

John Birch Society

The John Birch Society (JBS) is an ultra-conservative organization that was founded in 1958 C.E. to fight the perceived threat of Communism and other influences it considers un-American in the United States and to promote what it calls the free-enterprise system.

The society was named after John Birch, an American intelligence officer and Baptist missionary in World War II who was killed in 1945 C.E. by Chinese Communists, and who the JBS describes as “the first American victim of the Cold War”.

It describes itself as “a membership-based organization dedicated to restoring and preserving freedom under the United States Constitution”. It states that its members come from all walks of life and are active throughout the 50 states as part of local chapters. The Society’s mission is to achieve “Less Government, More Responsibility, and — With God’s Help — a Better World”. Its current headquarters is in Appleton, Wisconsin.

The JBS is anti-leftist, particularly anti-socialist and anti-communist. Critics of the Society call it ‘Far Right’, and some say ‘Neo-Fascist’. It has a long history of promoting conspiracy theories, and the degree of conspiracism has isolated it from many conservative groups. During the 1960s the JBS opposed the Civil Rights Movement as a communist plot, and it has flirted with antisemitic conspiracy theories, although current and past leaders of the JBS have denounced bigotry against Jews. Since the Balkan war and the attacks of 9/11, the JBS has shifted toward flirting with Islamophobia, (using terms such as “Islamo-Leninists”); a trend found in other sectors of the political right in the United States. Nevertheless, the John Birch Society has always been open to people of all races and religions.

It claims to strenuously defend what it sees as the original intention of the U. S. Constitution. The group promotes the idea that America is founded on as Judeo/Christian principles, and supports a strong Judeo/Christian influence in culture and government. It is anti-collectivist, which “collectivism”, in the society view, includes any form of wealth redistribution and economic control such as socialism, fascism, and communism. It also claims vast conspiracies throughout the world, have significantly shaped history, and it seeks to expose and eliminate their claimed control in government in the modern era. It is also anti-globalization and seeks restrictive immigration reform. The John Birch Society has been a major opponent of the United Nations, North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Free Trade of the Americas (FTAA), and many other free-trade agreements with other nations which it views as destructive to American principles and sovereignty.
Lausanne Conference, 1949

The Lausanne Conference, 1949 C.E. was convened by the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine (UNCCP) from 27 April to 12 September, 1949 C.E. During the conference representatives of Israel, the Arab states and Palestinian refugees attempted to resolve disputes arising from the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. Amongst the issues discussed were the repatriation of Palestinian refugees (and whether the issue could be discussed separately from the overall Arab-Israeli conflict), Israeli counter-claims for war damages, the fate of orange groves belonging to refugees and of their bank accounts blocked in Israel.

The Lausanne Conference was convened in 1949 C.E. in the aftermath of the 1948 C.E. War, with Israel and the Arab states participating. The sides agreed on a protocol based on the Arabs' acceptance of the principle of partition in Palestine, implying recognition of Israel. Nevertheless, Israel, inspired by its newly defined security interests, signed the document but impeded its translation into a political agreement. Instead, according to Pappé, the Israeli side took advantage of the discord among the Arab delegation in regard to the outcomes of the 1948 C.E. War. Pappé argues that, at bottom, Israel preferred the political status quo over a quest for peace.

The Israelis insisted on discussing solutions to refugee problems only in the context of an overall settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Israeli government offered to repatriate 100,000 refugees, but only as part of a final settlement in which all other refugees were absorbed by Arab states. Compensation would be paid, but not to individual refugees or Arab states, only to a "common fund" and only for land that had been under cultivation prior to being abandoned; not for any moveable property or uncultivated land. The common fund would be reduced by an amount of compensation to Israel for war reparations. No agreement was reached.

Because of the failure of the conference the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East was established to care for the needs of refugees.

Majority Rule

Majority rule (a concept closely aligned with majoritarianism) is defined as the rule that requires more than half of a polity’s members who cast a vote to agree in order for the whole polity to make a decision on the measure being voted on. More broadly, the term is used in discussions regarding the principles of majority rule and the protection of individual and minority rights.

Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman Empire (Ottoman Turkish Devlet-i Aliye-i Osmaniye, literally “Ottoman Sublime State”) was an imperial power, centered around the
borders of the Mediterranean Sea, that existed from 1299 C.E. to 1922 C.E. At the height of its power in the sixteenth century C.E., it included Anatolia, the Middle East, parts of North Africa, and much of South-Eastern Europe to the Caucasus.

The Empire was situated in the Middle East and West, and interacted throughout its six-century history with both the East and the West.

Presbyterians

Presbyterianism is a form of church government, practiced by many (although not all) of those Protestant churches, which historically subscribed to the teachings of John Calvin (known as Reformed churches). Presbyterianism traces its institutional roots back to the Scottish Reformation, especially as led by John Knox. There are many separate Presbyterian Churches in different nations around the world. Besides national distinctions, Presbyterians also have divided from one another for doctrinal reasons, especially in the wake of the Enlightenment.

Proletariat

The proletariat (from Latin proles, offspring) is a term used to identify a lower social class; a member of such a class is proletarian. Originally it was identified as those people who had no wealth other than their sons; the term was initially used in a derogatory sense, until Karl Marx used it as a sociological term to refer to the working class.

Protestants

Protestantism is a movement within Christianity, representing a splitting away from the Roman Catholic Church during the mid-to-late Renaissance in Europe — a period known as the Protestant Reformation.

Commonly considered one of the three major branches of Christianity (along with Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy); the term “Protestant” represents a diverse range of theological and social perspectives, churches and related organizations.

Republic

In a broad definition, a republic is a state whose political organization rests on the principle that the citizens or electorate constitute the ultimate root of legitimacy and sovereignty. Several definitions, including that of the 1911 Encyclopaedia Britannica, stress the importance of autonomy and the ‘rule of law’ as part of the requirements for a Republic.

San Francisco Conference

Formally United Nations Conference on International
Organization (April 25 – June 26, 1945 C.E.), international meeting that established the United Nations. The basic principles of a worldwide organization that would embrace the political objectives of the Allies had been proposed at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference in 1944 C.E. and reaffirmed at the Yalta Conference in early 1945 C.E. The conference was attended by delegations from the 46 nations to reach agreement on an international organization designed to keep the peace in the postwar world.

Semitic

Semitic is a linguistic term referring to a subdivision of largely Middle Eastern Afro-Asiatic languages, the Semitic languages, as well as their speakers’ corresponding cultures, and ethnicities. Although there is much debate about the scope of the word’s “racial” use in the context of population genetics and history, as a linguistic term the language family is well-defined to include ancient and modern versions of Amharic, Arabic, Aramaic, Akkadian, Hebrew, Maltese, Syriac, Tigrigna, etc.

Shining Path

Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso in Spanish) is a Maoist guerrilla insurgent organization in Peru; followers are generally called Senderistas. The group never refers to itself as “Shining Path”, preferring to be called the Communist Party of Peru; the more familiar name comes from the maxim of José Carlos Mariátegui, founder of Peru’s first communist party: “El Marxismo-Leninismo abrirá el sendero luminoso hacia la revolución” (“Marxism-Leninism will open the shining path to revolution”). The name “Shining Path” is used by outsiders to distinguish the organization from other Peruvian communist groups.

Shining Path’s stated goal is to replace Peruvian bourgeois institutions with a communist peasant revolutionary regime, presumably passing first through the Maoist developmental stage of New Democracy. Since the capture of its leader Abimael Guzmán in 1992 C.E., it has only been sporadically active. In any case, Shining Path’s ideology and tactics have been influential on other Maoist insurgent groups, notably the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) and other Revolutionary Internationalist Movement-affiliated armed organizations.

Widely condemned for its brutality, including violence deployed against ordinary peasants, trade union organizers, popularly elected officials and the general civilian population, Sendero is on the U.S. Department of State’s “Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations” list. Peru, the United Kingdom and the European Union likewise regard Shining Path as a terrorist group and prohibit providing funding or other financial support.

Third Reich

Nazi Germany, or the Third Reich, refers to the German Empire in the
years 1933 C.E. – 1945 C.E., when it was under the control of the National Socialist German Workers Party (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei (NSDAP), or Nazi Party, with the Führer Adolf Hitler as chancellor and head of state. Nazi Germany worked in close proximity with and was allied with Imperial Japan (under Emperor Hirohito) and Fascist Italy (under Benito Mussolini) under the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis. It was the main part of the Axis Powers in World War II.

Third Reich, used as a near-synonym for Nazi Germany, is the English for the German expression Drittes Reich, roughly Third Empire, but the second word is seldom translated. It refers to the government and its agencies rather than the land and its people.

Third Wave

The Third Wave of Democratization (term coined by political scientist Samuel P. Huntington) is the global trend that has seen more than 60 countries experience democratic transitions since 1974 C.E.

Third World

Third World is a term first coined in 1952 C.E. by French demographer Alfred Sauvy to distinguish nations that aligned themselves with neither the West nor with the Soviet Bloc during the Cold War. Today, however, the term is frequently used to denote nations with a low UN Human Development Index (HDI), independent of their political status. However, there is no objective definition of Third World or “Third World Country” and the use of the term remains controversial.

In general, Third World countries are not as industrialized or technologically advanced.

War on Terror

The War on Terrorism or War on Terror (in U.S. foreign policy circles, Global War on Terrorism or GWOT; recently also Long War) is a controversial campaign by the United States government and some of its allies with the stated goal of ending international ‘terrorism’ by stopping ‘terrorist’ groups and ending state sponsorship of ‘terrorism’.

The “war on terrorism” was launched in response to the September 11, 2001 C.E. attacks on New York and Washington D.C. attributed to al-Qa’idah and has become a central part of U.S. President George W. Bush’s foreign and domestic policy. Unlike earlier concepts and definitions of war — with defined nations, boundaries, and standing armies and navies — the “War on Terrorism” has largely been dominated by the use of special forces, intelligence, police work, diplomacy and propaganda.
White House

The White House is the official residence and principal workplace of the President of the United States of America.

The White House is a white-painted, neoclassical sandstone mansion located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW in Washington, D.C. As the office of the U.S. President, the term "White House" is often used as a metonym for the president's administration. The property is owned by the National Park Service and is part of President's Park. An image of the White House is on the back of the $20 bill.