Lecture 15: The 20th Century - Part 2

PALESTINE
-the League of Arab States (1945): Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia,
-the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) / May 15, 1947
-recommends the division of Palestine into a Jewish state, a Palestinian state, and a “free city” of Jerusalem --- all combined in an economic union
-division of Palestine approved by vote of the General Assembly (Nov. 29, 1947)

ISRAEL
-departure of the British High Commissioner (May 14, 1948)
-and declaration of the State of Israel
-David Ben-Gurion in Tel Aviv
-Chaim Weizmann and Goldie Myerson
-the ARAB-ISRAELI WAR of 1948 / “the WAR of ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE”
-election of Chaim Weizmann as the 1st President of the State of Israel
-the Knesset (Parliament)
-the “Law of Return”
-“Jerusalem is the capital of Israel”
-Israel is admitted to the United Nations (May 1949)
-Arab-Israeli War ended (July 1949)
-Israel controlled 78% of Palestine
-incl. Galilee and the Negev and West Jerusalem (the New City)
-Transjordan controlled the West Bank and East Jerusalem (the Old City)
-Egypt controlled the Gaza Strip (the southern Palestinian coast)
-Arab response: “Push Israel into the sea”

The Hashemite Kingdom of JORDAN
-Hashemite = direct descendants of Mohammed through his daughter, FATIMA
-King Abdullah (r. 1946 – 1951)
-King Hussein ibn-Talal (r. 1953 – 1999)

Israel benefited from a highly trained and motivated citizenry to create this nation-state, assisted by the enmity of the surrounding Arab countries because the constant state of siege forced the people of Israel to unite against a common danger -this gave them a sense of UNITY and a sense of MISSION
-and hanging as a tragic backdrop: the memory of the Jewish Holocaust in Europe as a justification for the State of Israel
EGYPT

- Independence of Egypt (1922) = the Kingdom of Egypt
  - King Fu‘ad (r. 1922 – 1936) and King Farouk (r. 1936 – 1952)
  - the Muslim Brotherhood

- the REPUBLIC of EGYPT (July 1952)
  - Col. Gamal Abdel NASSAR and the “Free Officers”
    - abolition of political parties (1953)
    - the National Union
  - Nassar becomes President (1956 – 1970)

- the SUEZ CRISIS (1956)
- the United Arab Republic (UAR) from 1958 - 1961

The SIX DAY WAR (June 1967)
“We are making mincemeat of everything on the ground.”
  - Ariel Sharon, Moshe Dayan, Yitzak Rabin,

- Israel acquires:
  - the Sinai and the Gaza Strip (from Egypt)
  - the West Bank and all of Jerusalem (from Jordan)
  - the Golan Heights (from Syria)

Creation of the PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO)
  - recognized as the representative body of the Palestinian Arabs

- YASSER ARAFAT (1929 - 2004) becomes Chairman in 1969

1970 - “Black September” -- Jordan drives out the PLO
- ANWAR SADAT replaces the deceased Nasser as President of Egypt

1972 - the Munich Olympics: the “Black September” Group takes hostages
- Golda Meir, Prime Minister of Israel: “We intend to remain alive. Our neighbors want to see us dead. This is not a question that leaves much room for compromise.”

1973 - October: the YOM KIPPUR WAR (Yom Kippur = Day of Atonement)
1975 – 1976 - civil war in Lebanon

1977 - the Likud Party replaces the Labour Party in Israel:
  Prime Minister MENACHEM BEGIN

- Anwar Sadat travels to Israel and addresses the Knesset (the Israeli Parliament)

1978 - Sept: the CAMP DAVID ACCORDS, led by U.S. President Jimmy Carter
- Dec: Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin receive the Nobel Peace Prize
1979  -PEACE TREATY between Egypt and Israel
- Egypt gave full diplomatic recognition to Israel
- Egypt regained the Sinai peninsula
   and Israel abandoned the settlements that had been built there
- the treaty also gave assurances that a self-governing authority would be created
   for Palestinian Arabs living in the Gaza Strip and West Bank
- most Arab countries denounced the treaty
  - refused to accept Israel’s occupation of these territories
  - the PLO refuses to acknowledge Israel’s right to exist

MESOPOTAMIA > IRAQ

- after World War I
  the Ottoman provinces of Mosul, Bagdad and Basra are merged
  and under British control

- Faisal al-Hashimi (1885 - 1933)
  - proclaims himself King of Syria in Damascus (1920)
  - the French kick him out

- he becomes King of Iraq (1921)
  - alliance with Great Britain

- the Kingdom of Iraq (1925 - 1958) / a constitutional monarchy
  - King Faisal I (r. 1921 - 1933)
  - King Ghazi (1912 / r. 1933 - 1939)
  - King Faisal II (1935 - 1958)
  - the DEVELOPMENT BOARD
    - a board of experts responsible for major projects
    - flood control, bridges, schools, hospitals, public buildings

The REPUBLIC of IRAQ
- military overthrow of the monarchy (July 1958)
  - Abd al-Karim QASIM

- the Arab Socialist Ba’ath Party (“Revivalist”)

- coup 1968
  - Ahmad Hassan al-Bakr (President and Prime Minister)
    and Saddam Hussein

- July 16, 1979
  - SADDAM HUSSEIN becomes President and Prime Minister
PERSIA
-a glorious past: Achaemenid / Parthian / Sassanid / Safavid empires

-Reza Khan > Reza Shah Pahlavi (r. 1925 - 1941)

-MOHAMMAD REZA PAHLAVI (1919 / r. 1941 - 1980)
  -Shahanshah (King of Kings) and Aryamehr (Lord of the Aryans)

  -Dr. Mohammad Mosaddeq, Prime Minister (1951 - 1953)
    -nationalization of the Iranian oil industry
    -exclusion of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company
    -overthrown by a CIA / British operation (1953)
    -but Shah Pahlavi remains in power

  -the WHITE REVOLUTION
    -great modernization of Iran and transformation into a global power
    -extension of civil rights to women

-October 1971: the 2,500th anniversary of the Persian monarchy
  -festivities in Persepolis

-growing restlessness and opposition to the Shah (1970s)
  -Communists
  -Islamic clerics and their supporters
  -liberal forces / the middle classes


-the Ayatollah Ruhollah KHOMEINI (1902 - 1989) / SHIA MUSLIM
  -QOM seminary

-departure of the Shah (Jan. 16, 1979)
  -new Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar

-return of the Ayatollah Khomeini (Feb. 1, 1979)
  -new Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan

The ISLAMIC REPUBLIC of IRAN

-Ayatollah KHOMEINI as Supreme Leader of Iran (r. 1979 - 1989)

-Shah Pahlavi admitted to U.S. for medical treatment (Oct. 1979)

-Iran Hostage Crisis (Nov 4, 1979)
  -attempted rescue (April 25, 1980)
  -release of the hostages (Jan. 20, 1981) on the day of the inauguration of President Ronald Reagan

-the Iran-Iraq War (1980 - 1988)

-FATWA (judicial condemnation) against Salman Rushdie (1989)
  -death of Khomeini (June 4, 1989)

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