

Democratic Reform and Activism

Ch. 10 .1

Take 5 to ANSWER ME.

- What do you know about the country of Syria?
- What would you do if your country suddenly faced a civil war?
- Do you feel that the United States should get involved with Syria?

Learning Objective - 11/20/15

To help students understand the issues involved in creating new forms of government.

IWBAT

Find information on issues in today's world that involve a call for social justice. Then make a poster in which you illustrate what you regard as the most compelling example of a current social injustice.

Syria today!

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I
C



Object
Parts
Title
Inference
Conclusion

Story of Syria's Civil War (8 Chapters)

More than 250,000 Syrians have lost their lives in 4.5 years of armed conflict, which began with anti-government protests before escalating into a full-scale civil war.

More than 11 million others have been forced from their homes as forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad and those opposed to his rule battle each other - as well as jihadist militants from Islamic State.



The destruction of Civil War in Syria



Chapter One - Uprising turns violent

Pro-democracy protests erupt in March 2011 after the arrest & torture of some teenagers who painted revolutionary slogans on a school wall.

Security forces open fire on demonstrators, killing several.

Unrest triggered nationwide protests demanding President Assad's resignation.

The government use of force to crush the dissent merely hardened the protestors' resolve.



Chapter Two - Descent into civil war

Opposition supporters eventually began to take up arms, first to defend themselves and later to expel security forces from their local areas.

Violence escalated and the country descended into civil war as rebel brigades were formed to battle government forces for control of cities, towns, & countryside.

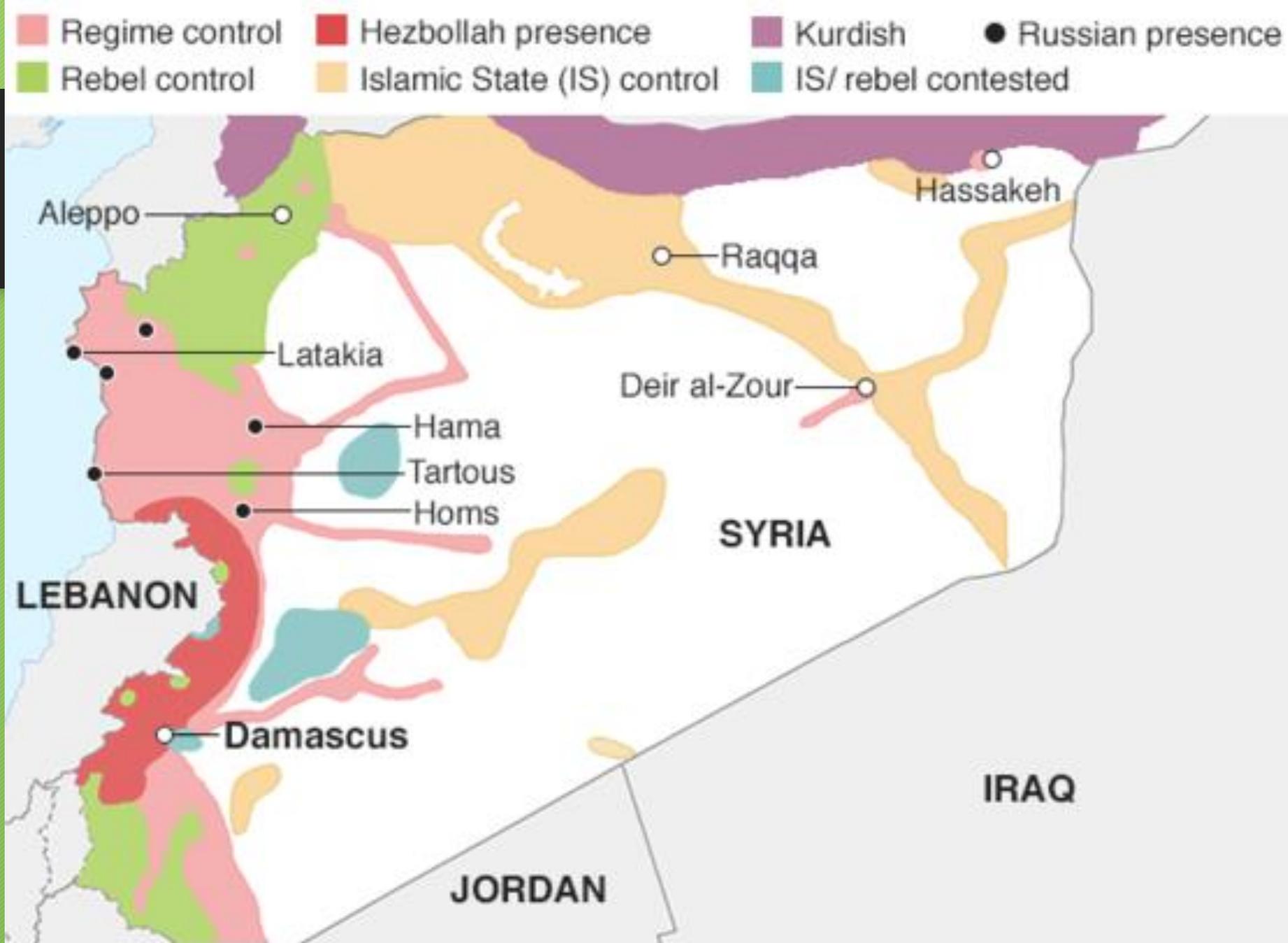
Started as People v. Government

Now Sunni majority v. President Shia
Alawite Sect v. Jihadist Groups
(Islamic State of ISIS)



Map

June 2013
90,000 killed in conflict
August 2014
191,000 killed in conflict
August 2015
250,000 killed in conflict



Source: ISW

Chapter Three - War crimes

UN Commission of inquiry, investigating alleged human rights violations since March 2011.

Both sides of the conflict have committed war crimes - including murder, torture, rape, and enforced disappearances.

Islamic State has also been accused by UN of waging a campaign of terror.



“

*We're just living on
the edge of life.
We're always
nervous, we're
always afraid*

*Mother-of-nine Mariam Akash,
whose husband was killed by a
sniper*



Chapter Four - Chemical Weapons

Hundreds of people were killed in August 2013 after rockets filled with the nerve agent sarin were fired at several agricultural district.

OPCW Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons - faced with US military intervention, President Assad agreed to remove and destroy Syria's chemical weapons.

IS has been accused of using homemade Chemical weapons



Chapter Five - Humanitarian Crisis

More than four millions people have fled Syria since the start of the conflict, most of them women & children. It is one of the largest refugee exoduses in recent history.

7.6 million Syrians have been internally Displaced within the country, bring the Total number forced to flee their homes more than 11 million.



On Island of Lesbos, a Microcosm of Greece's Other Crisis: Migrants

The number of refugees and migrants arriving on Lesbos and on other Greece islands has surged to a full-scale disaster, and only squalor awaits them.



Chapter Six - Rebels and the rise of the Jihadist

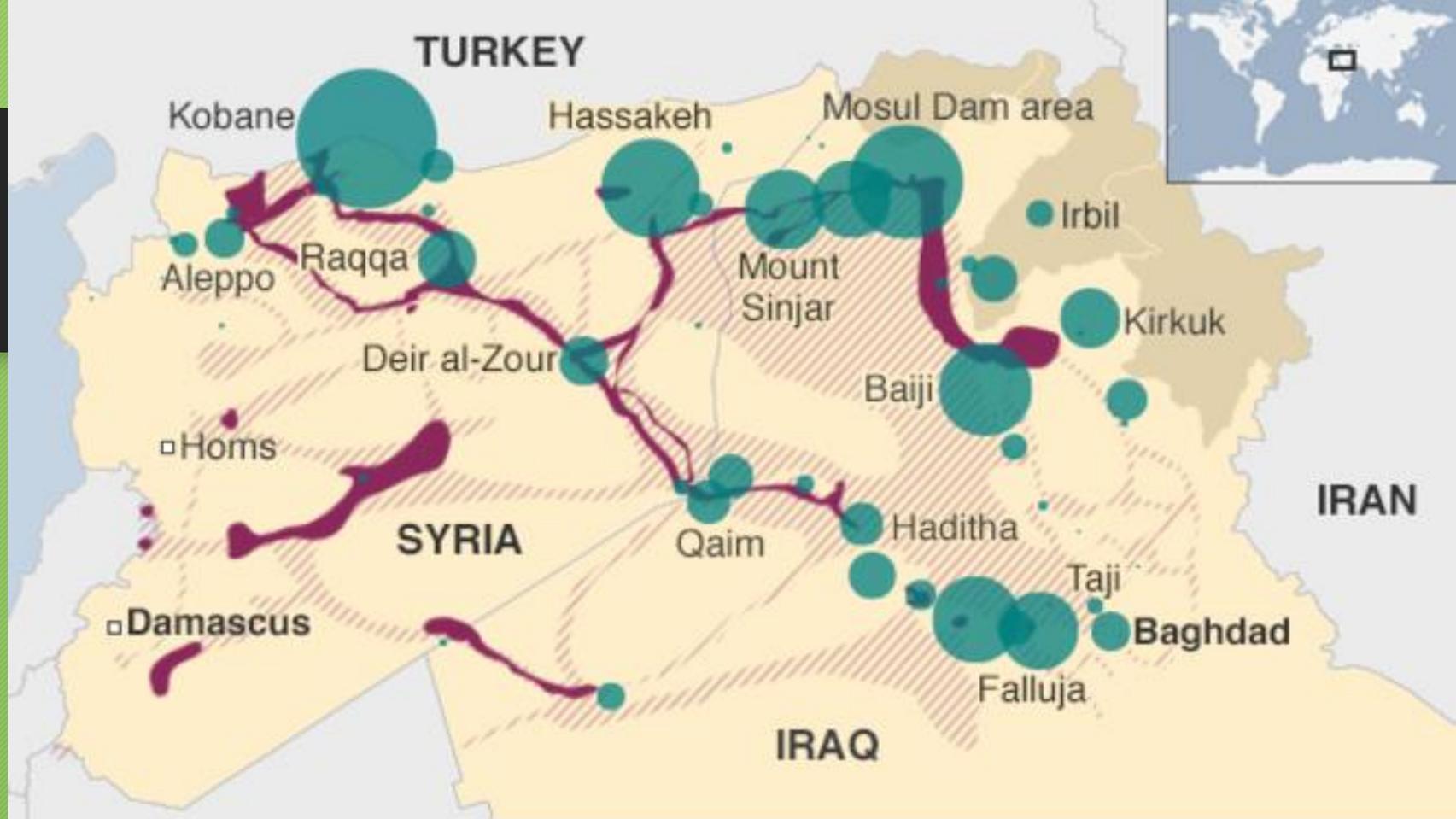
The armed rebellion had evolved significantly since its inception.

Secular moderates are now outnumbered by Islamists and Jihadists, whose brutal tactics have caused widespread concern and triggered rebel infighting.

Capitalizing on the chaos in the region, Islamic State - the extremist group that grew out of al-Qaeda in Iraq - has taken control of huge swathes of territory across northern & southern Syria, as well as Iraq.

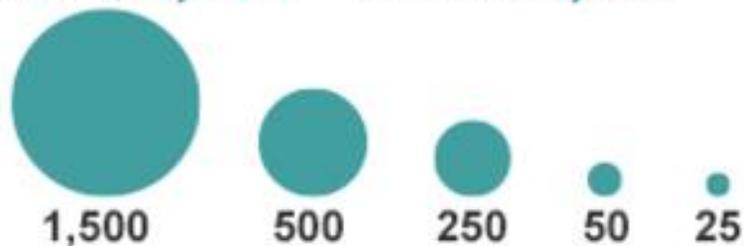


Air Strikes



Confirmed air strikes up to 30 Sep 2015

IRAQ 4,365 SYRIA 2,410



■ IS control ▨ IS free to operate

■ Kurdistan Government-administered

100 km 50 miles

Note: Strikes have not been mapped when the precise location was not given or was unclear.

Chapter Seven - Peace Effort

With neither side able to inflict a decisive defeat on the other, the international community long ago concluded that only a political solution could end the conflict in Syria. However, a number of attempts by the Arab League and the UN to broker ceasefires and start dialogue have failed.

Chapter Eight - Proxy War

What began as another Arab Spring uprising against an autocratic ruler has mushroomed into a brutal proxy war that has drawn in regional and world powers.

Iran and Russia have propped up the Alawite-led government of President Assad and gradually increased their support.

Tehran is believed to be spending billions of dollars a year to bolster Mr Assad, providing military advisers and subsidised weapons, as well as lines of credit and oil transfers.

In September 2015, Russia launched an air campaign against Mr Assad's opponents. Moscow said it was targeting only "all terrorists", above all members of Islamic State, but many of the strikes hit Western-backed rebels and civilians.

Chapter Eight - Proxy War

The Syrian government has also enjoyed the support of Lebanon's Shia Islamist Hezbollah movement, whose fighters have provided important battlefield support since 2013.

The Sunni-dominated opposition has, meanwhile, attracted varying degrees of support from its main backers - Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and other Arab states along with the US, UK and France.

However, the rise of hardline Islamist rebels and the arrival of jihadists from across the world have led to a marked cooling of Western backing.



Activity

Find information on issues in today's world that involve a call for social justice. Then make a poster in which you illustrate what you regard as the most compelling example of a current social injustice.

Using the computers in the back of the room or your phones research the internet for social injustice.

Google is a good place to start.

<http://iucru.com/10-injustices-in-our-current-world/>

Injustice = Poverty



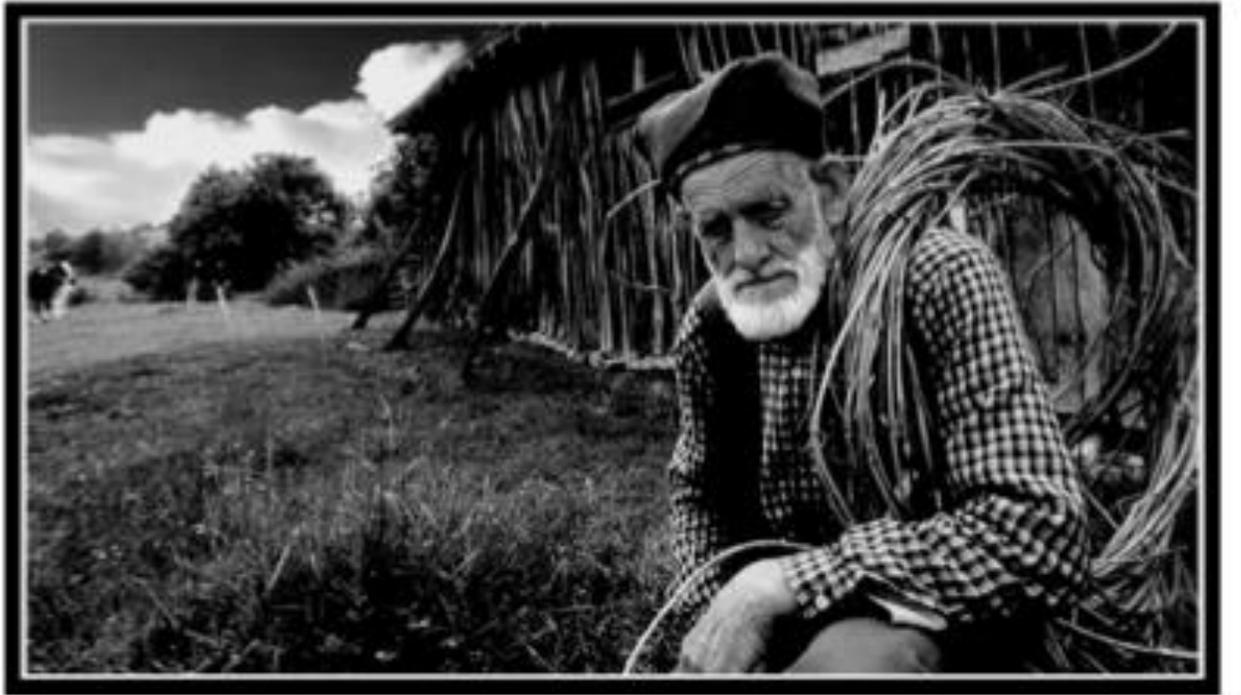
Injustice = Starvation



Injustice = Gender Un-Equality



Injustice = Elderly



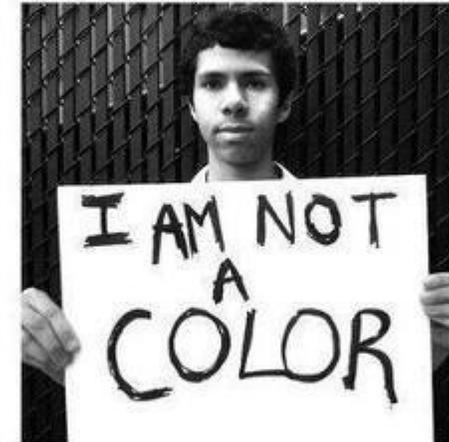
Injustice = Widows



Injustice = Orphans



Injustice = Racism



Injustice = Abuse (physically & verbally)



Injustice = Sex Trafficking



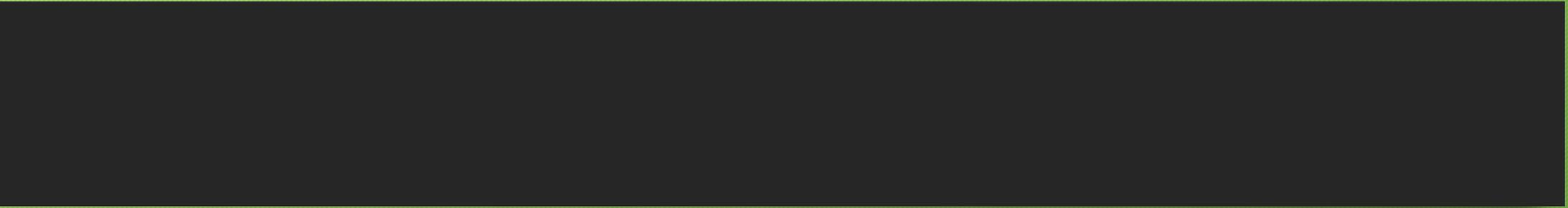
Injustice = War & Grief



Closure

Based on the information acquired today -
Why is the road to democracy for Syria so difficult?

What do you think needs to happen?



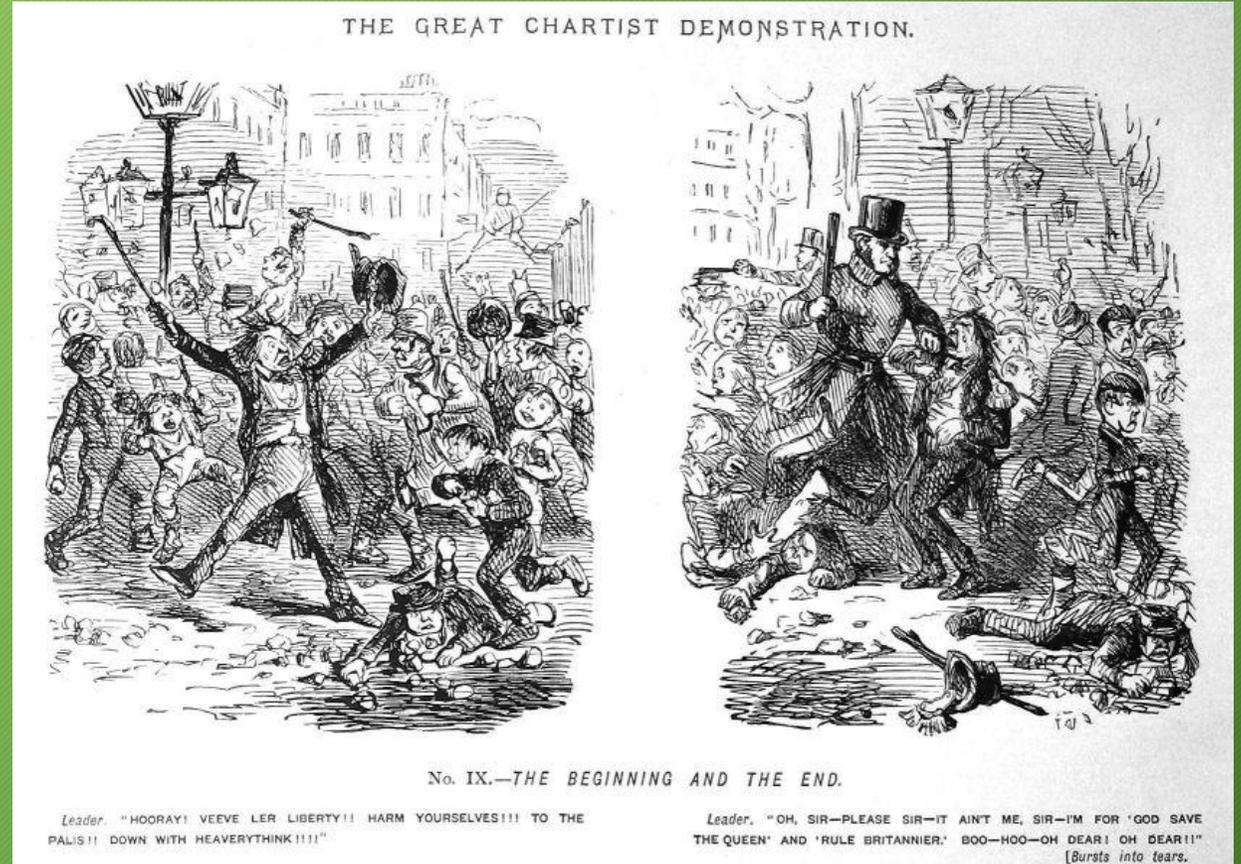
Key Terms

Suffrage - Right to vote



Key Terms

Chartist movement - British members demand reforms in Parliament & elections, including suffrage for all men



Key Terms

Queen Victoria - British Queen that brought the British Empire to its height and its wealth and power.



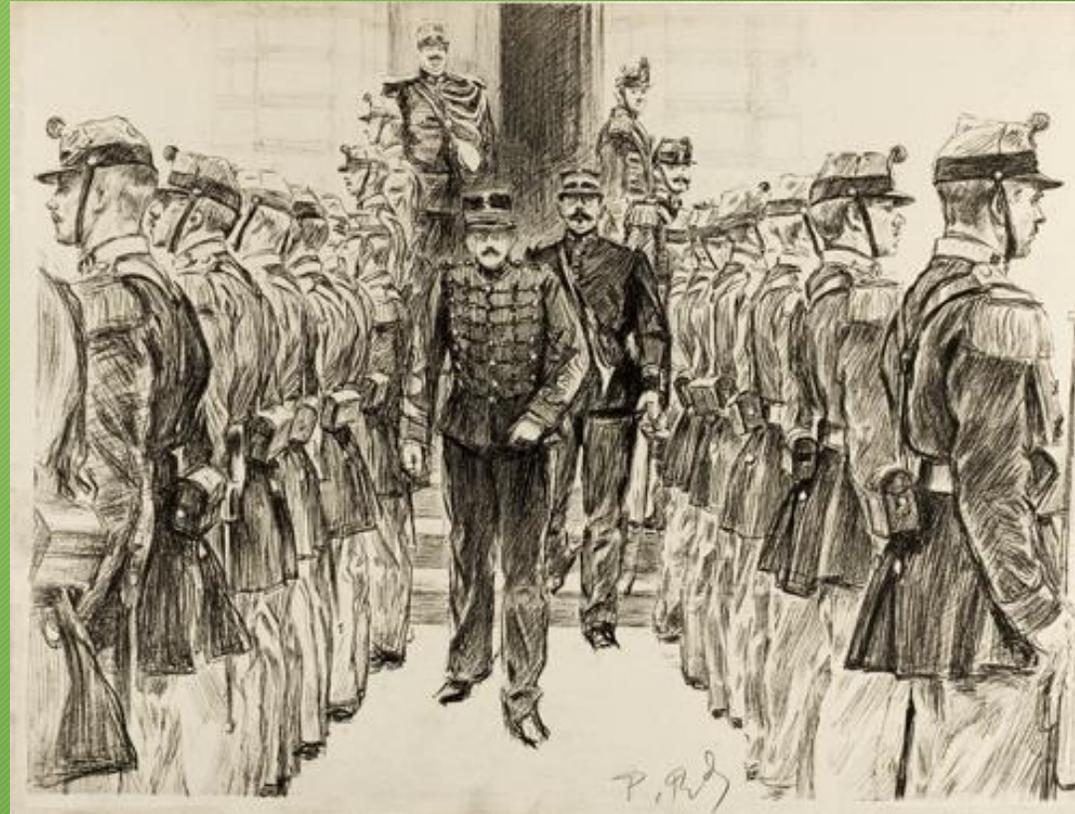
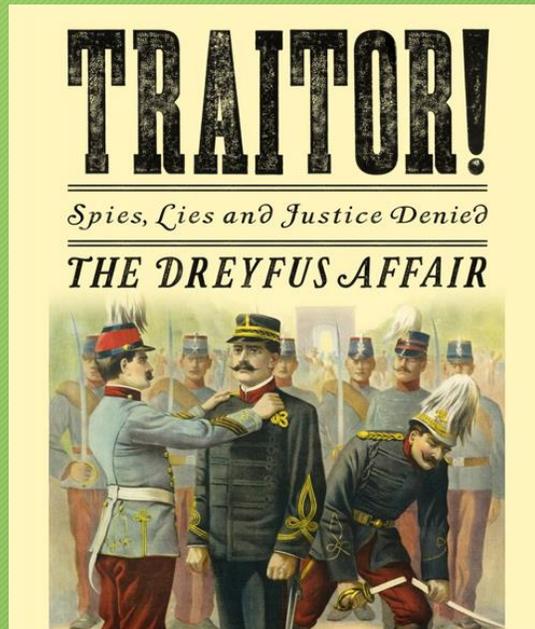
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Third Republic - Republic established in France after Napoleon III



Key Terms

Dreyfus Affair - Controversy of Jewish Army Officer falsely accused of selling military secrets to Germany.



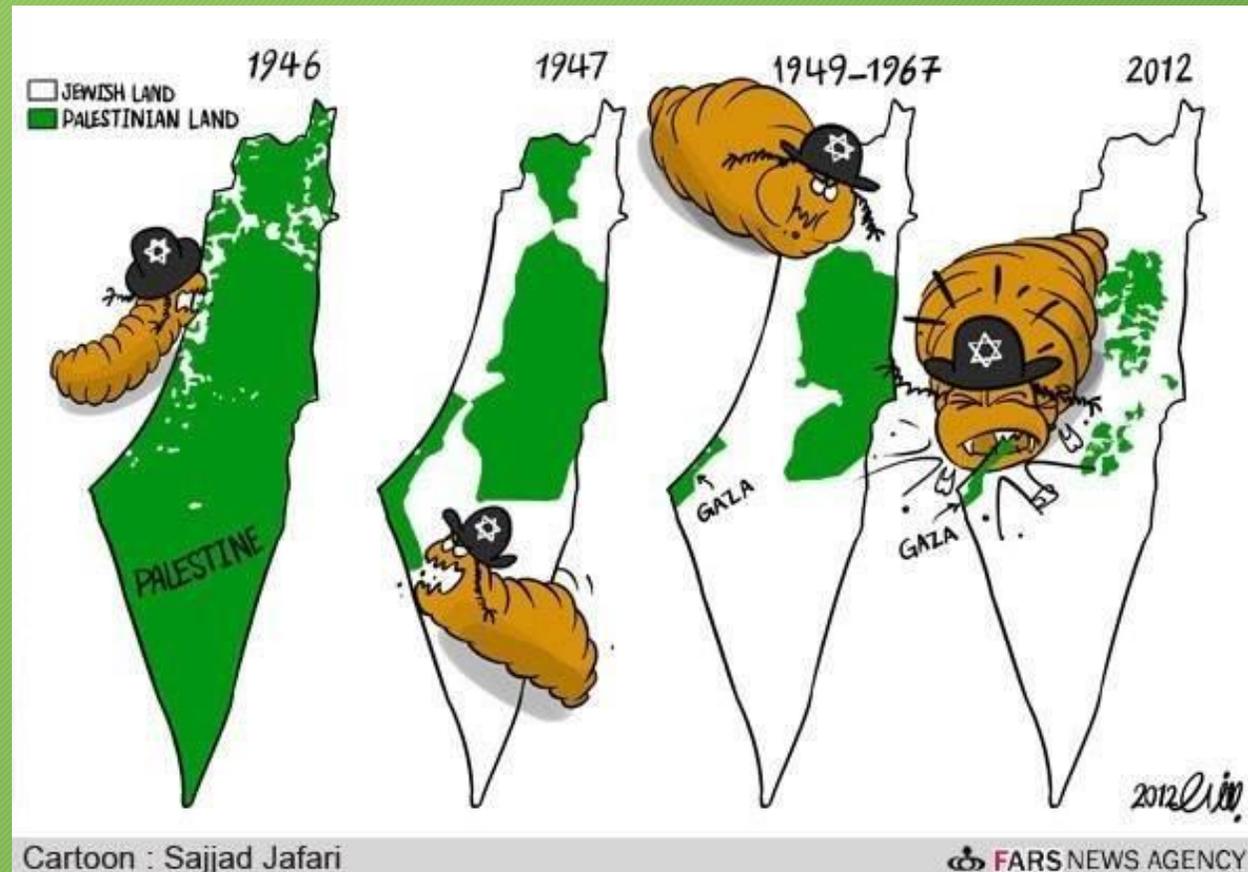
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Anti-Semitism - Prejudice against Jews



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Zionism - Movement to promote the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine



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