Middle East Culture & History Study Guide

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|  | Arabs | Persians | Kurds |
| Religion (Main Branch) | Sunni Islam | Shia Islam | Sunni Islam |
| Language | Arabic | Persian (Farsi) | A language related to Persian (Kurdish) |
| Main Location | North Africa and the Middle East | Iran | Mountains b/w Iran, Syria, Turkey, & Iraq |

Fill in the following chart on religions originating in the Middle East. Look over your triple Venn diagram, and make sure you can write a paragraph explaining what they all have in common (center section of Venn diagram!).

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|  | Judaism | Christianity | Islam |
| Most important figure | Moses | Jesus | Muhammad |
| Holy book | Torah | Bible | Qur’an |
| Religious leader | Rabbi | Preacher, Minister, Pastor, and/or Priest | Imam |
| Sacred language | Hebrew | N/A | Arabic |
| Holy building | Synagogue | Church | Mosque |
| View of Jesus | Just a man | Son of God/part of God | Prophet |
| Word for God | Adonai | God | Allah |

Define or describe the following terms:

Prophet= messenger of God who sees/tells of the future

Monotheism=belief in ONE god

Shia Islam=Form of Islam (minority); descendants of Muhammad can lead

Sunni Islam=Form of Islam (majority); any good, knowledgeable male Muslim can lead

Zionism = a movement for a Jewish nation in what is now Israel

Anti-Semitism = extreme hatred toward Jews

\*What are the four main causes of the collapse of the Ottoman Empire?

1) Weakened by too many wars (lost land to nationalist groups)

2) Financial issues—high debt

3) Falling behind in technology (Europeans were advancing during Industrial Revolution)

4) Losing side of WWI

“**W**e **D**ab **T**o **L**earn”

In what year did Israel officially become a state?? \_1948\_\_

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|  | Countries Involved: | Cause: | Results: |
| Six-Day War (1967) | -Israel  -Arab nations (Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon) | -Arab support of Palestinians, desire to rid the region of Israel | -Israel won with help of US weapons  -Israel gained the following land:  \*Sinai from Egypt  \*West Bank from Jordan  \*Golan Heights from Syria |
| Camp David Accords (1978) | -Egypt  -Israel  -US (as mediator) | -Tension between the two countries, desire for peace & stability | -Egyptian and Israeli leaders signed peace agreement |
| Persian Gulf War (1990) | -Iraq  -Kuwait  -US and Allies | -Iraq invaded Kuwait b/c of oil (accused Kuwait of stealing theirs, Kuwait was driving prices down) | -US-led coalition forced Iraq out of Kuwait |
| U.S. War in Afghanistan (2001) | -US (& Allies)  -Terrorist groups in Afghanistan (Taliban & al Qaeda) | -9/11  -“War on Terror” | -Found and killed Osama bin Laden in Pakistan (2011) |
| U.S. War in Iraq (2003) | -US (& Allies)  -Iraq | -Fear of weapons of mass destruction  -War on Terror—government accused of funding terrorism | -Saddam Hussein was captured & executed  -Ongoing struggle for stability—American troops remain |