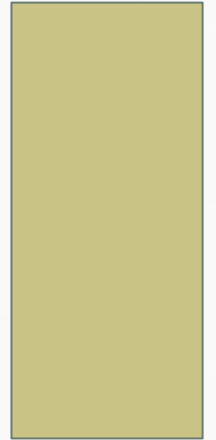


21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
MIDDLE EAST



# OPEC

- Organization of oil producing and exporting countries

# EMBARGO

- The blocking of exports and imports for political purposes

# BEDOUIN

- Wandering, nomadic desert herder

# IN THE NAME OF DEMOCRACY?

- The War in Iraq (2003-Present) began when Saddam Hussein refused to allow international inspectors to examine suspected weapon plants. Another reason that was used to justify the US invasion of Iraq was to spread democracy.
- At the time of September 11, 2001, al Qaeda and the Taliban were based in Afghanistan.
- The Persian Gulf War (Desert Storm) began when Iraq invaded Kuwait.
- The United States Imports most of its foreign oil from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait

# LAND & RELIGION

- The most bitter current territorial (land) dispute in the Middle East exists between Israelis and Palestinians.
- Israel Became a nation in 1948
- The Dome of the Rock, in Jerusalem is significant for Islam because It is where Mohammed ascended into Heaven.

# CULTURE & RELIGION

- A theocracy is a government where leaders rule by divine authority.
- In some Muslim countries a woman cannot board a plane or check into a hotel by herself without Written permission by a male member of her family.
- It is legal to have 4 wives in Islam but most men have 1.