Modern World: Post WWII Era to today

|  |
| --- |
| United Nations |
| Throughout global history, various groups have been persecuted due to **ethnic background**, **gender**, **religious** **preference**, or **political** **affiliation**. The methods of persecution have ranged from the restricting of **social and political rights**, to even **death**. The world has often turned a blind eye to human rights violations. This began to change after the **Holocaust** of the 20th century when the newly formed **United Nations** published its ***Universal Declaration of Human Rights***. This document states that all people are free and equal regardless of "*race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status*." Since this time, efforts have been made to end human rights abuses around the world.* **The function of the United Nations is based on the concept of collective security- coordinating global peacekeeping**
* **The United Nations was created primarily to provide a means of solving international problems**
 |
| Modern Science and Technology |
| **THE GREEN REVOLUTION**Throughout the 20th century, scientists worked on **improving** **agriculture**, especially in areas with high populations. Some of the technologies developed included better **irrigation systems** so farmers could get water to their crops. **New** **machinery** was built to handle larger production and to take the burden of agriculture work off of humans. **New** **chemical** **fertilizers** and **pesticides** were created to increase food production, and new varieties of **grains** and **livestock** were developed also for greater production. The Green Revolution has had only **limited** **success**. The high costs associated with many of these new technologies have kept the small farmer from taking advantage of them. * **The main goal of the Green Revolution was to solve chronic food shortages through the use of technology**
* **1950’s & 60s to increase of food output in many developing nations through the use of technology such as pesticides and fertilizers**
	+ **Green Revolution has increased food output in many developing countries. ( Africa, South America and South East Asia)**
* **Since the 1960s, famine in many parts of the world has been reduced by the Green Revolution(developing nations like India and Mexico**)

http://www.smashinglists.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/mouse-ear-600x398.jpghttp://static.guim.co.uk/sys-images/Observer/Pix/pictures/2010/8/5/1281024360284/genetic-modified-piglets--006.jpg | http://im.glogster.com/media/4/27/19/55/27195588.pngSary:Chart-4-no-green-revolution-for-africa.gif |
| **INFORMATION AGE** & **COMPUTER** **REVOLUTION** Computers have allowed people to **obtain**, **process**, and **disseminate** **information** very quickly. Businesses rely almost completely on computers for a variety of tasks, and they are becoming more prominent in homes and school.**The** **Internet**: The Internet is a vast network of computers from all around the world that **links** **individuals**, **businesses**, & **governments**. It allows for the **rapid** **exchange** **of information**, it is used to conduct all levels of business, & is increasing becoming a new form of entertainment. The Internet is also being increasingly used in **education** as jobs in **industrialized** **countries** move away from **manufacturing**, & into **information** **services**. * Modern Totalitarian nations have used the Internet to control the population of the nations (China)
* An impact of the computer on the global economy Companies now market more products worldwide.
 |
| Modern Economy and Economic Cooperation |
| **Global Trade and Interdependence**New advances in **communications** and a **growing** **world** **market** for goods and technology have brought many nations closer economically. Nations also have become **interdependent** as a result. Industrialized nations depend on **oil** from around the world. This has translated into political and economic power for **oil** **rich** **nations**, such as those in the **Middle** **East**. A rise in oil prices results in an increase in the price of goods across the board. This can have a devastating effect on the economies of both industrialized nations, and on poor nations unable to afford goods due to inflation. Regional cooperation among nations is another example of interdependence. Organizations like the **European Union** and The **Association of Southeast Asian Nations**, cooperate economically by lowering **trade** **barriers**, (**tariffs**) to encourage commerce between member nations. On a larger scale, many western companies have formed partnerships with companies in economically poorer nations as a way of generating more business. The downside to these **multinational companies** is that they often out compete local business in poorer nations. **Regional Cooperation’s*** **Organization of American States (OAS)**
* **European Union (EU)- to improve the economic prosperity of Europe.**
* **North American Free Trade Agreement(NAFTA)- to encourage increased economic development**
* **Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)- regulate oil policies**
	+ **Members control a majority of the world’s oil supply**
	+ **Member countries like Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Algeria, Venezuela regulate oil policies and prices in the world market**
	+ **These countries hold economic influence over industrialized nations**

Overall, the world has become a smaller place economically as global trade and interdependence have increased. It has also become smaller through the mass migrations that have resulted in sharing of **culture** and ideas among the peoples of the world.Additional information on the Modern Economy **Urbanization*** **Urbanization in developing nations today is similar to urbanization in 19th-century England because in both cases many farm workers went to cities to look for jobs**
* **In India, urbanization affected society by weakening the traditional caste system (modernization**

**Asia*** **Since World War II, Japan has developed a strong economic base built on the export of manufactured goods.**
* **To maintain its economic position, Japan has often limited the number of cars or the quantity of farm products that the United States can sell in Japan. Japan has imposed these limits to develop a favorable balance of trade the economy of Japan today is a lack of natural resources has not limited economic growth.**
* **Since the 1980s, Chinese leaders have tried to improve China’s economy by implementing a policy of limited free enterprise**

 |
| Conflicts |
| Human Rights ViolationsALL of the following people and countries are examples of human rights violations or genocide1915-1917: **Armenian Massacre*** Ottoman Muslims slaughtered Armenian Christians

1932: **Ukrainian Massacre*** Stalin forces collectivization on the Ukraine, starving millions

1937: **Rape of Nanking*** Japanese massacred Chinese in city of Nanking

1941-1945: **Nazi Holocaust*** Nazi **“Final Solution”** to exterminate Jews, Gypsies, Slavs, and others during WWII
* Over 11 million were killed

Led to the Nuremberg Trials: first to punish war criminals for violating human rights- The 19 of the 22 Nazi leaders tried were either sentenced to death or prison, three were released.1970’s: Cambodia* Pol Pot massacres 1.5 million Cambodians to cleanse the country
* use of terror to achieve political goals **(Similar to Milosevic, Hitler, Stalin and Mao Zedong)**

1990’s: Serbia, Bosnia and Croatia- Yugoslavia* Slobodan Milosevic supported “ethnic cleansing” by Serbian military

1994: Rwanda* Hutu kill over 800,000 Tutsi

**Apartheid**In 1948, South Africa legalized racism in the form of **apartheid**. It was a form of **legal segregation** of blacks and whites covering housing, jobs, and education. The government was extreme in its enforcement of the apartheid statute, and thousands of black South Africans were killed. Apartheid was officially ended on May 10, 1994, when the first democratic election since World War II took place. **Nelson Mandela**, an activist jailed for over 20 years, was elected president.* **In the second half of the 20th century, what was one action taken by both Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu- protesting against apartheid in South Africa**

**India and Pakistan** * A sense of national unity has been difficult to maintain in India because of the desire of religious groups for greater autonomy
* India and Pakistan independence in the 20th century has caused the migration of millions of people across their shared borders due to religious tensions
* India today- Religious and ethnic diversity has continued to cause conflict
* Adding to this conflict is the threat of **nuclear** **war**

**South Korea and North Korea*** Even though they have faced **economic** **hardships**, North Korea has spent **large** **sums** of **money** building up its **military** which is rumored to posses **nuclear** **weapons**.
* Iran and North Korea attracted worldwide attention in the early 21st century because they both have developed nuclear capabilities
* Both Cuba and North Korea under communist rule have had command economies have been inefficient.
* South Korea has flourished while North Korea is struggling to survive.

**Africa** * **drought and famine Sudan and Rwanda rivalries between ethnic groups**

**Others** * **Since the late 1940s, Northern Ireland, India, and Israel have all faced which common problem-continued violent confrontations between different religious groups**
 |

|  |
| --- |
| Conflicts (Continued) |
| **Fundamentalism** A goal of modern-day religious fundamentalism is to maintain traditional religious values in society. * In Iran, both the Revolution of 1979 and the rise of Islamic fundamentalism have caused tension between traditionalism and modernization to continue
* Iran’s Ayatollah Khomeini and Afghanistan’s Taliban were similar is that they each established an Islamic state

Afghanistan in the 1990’s- Islamic fundamentalism• The Taliban controls the government.• Women must clothe themselves from head to toe.• Men are required to grow beards.• Girls are not allowed to attend school.These changes in Afghanistan have resulted from a movement toward Islamic fundamentalism**Terrorism**Perhaps the major concern today is fear of international **terrorism**. Terrorism is the unlawful use of violence against people or property in order to gain revenge, intimidate, or force societies or governments to make decisions for political reasons. Terrorist use bombs, **assassinations**, hijacking, kidnapping (and threats to use these methods) to accomplish their goals.There are at least 85 recognized [terrorist organizations](http://www.terrorism.com/terrorism/Groups2.shtml) worldwide. In response to the terrorist threats, many changes have occurred. Throughout the world, airport security has increased, international police organizations began sharing information in their efforts to prevent and catch terrorists, and governments have actively begun pursuing terrorist suspects and organizations.Most notably, the United States initiated a comprehensive military operation against radical **Muslim** terrorists (**Al-Qaeda**) based in Afghanistan following a September 11, 2001 attack that destroyed the Twin Towers in New York City, and killed 3,000. |
| 20th Century Geographic Problems |
| * Desertification: when a piece of land becomes dry, empty, and unsuitable for growing trees or crops (Africa and China)
* Deforestation: the removal of trees causes land erosion (Amazon River in Latin America)
* Problems like pollution, acid rain and depletion of the ozone layer call for greater cooperation in the years to come
* Many scientists believe global warming is the direct result of burning fossil fuels
 |
| Over Population and Modern China |
|  New medicines and technology were discovered and applied are an explanation for the great change in the world population between 1950 and 2000?Since the late 1970s, the Chinese government has attempted reduce the effects of overpopulation with a one-child policy that limits family size  |
| S |
| The Conflict over OilAn offshoot of the Industrial Revolution and the Age of Imperialism is the global dependence on oil or petroleum. Developed countries are especially dependent because of high-levels of industry, transportation, etc. This means that whoever controls the oil enjoys a fair amount of political, economic, and even social power. Much of the world's oil supply lies in the **Middle East**. In the first half of the 20th century, Middle Eastern nations had the oil but did not have a way to procure, refine, and distribute it. Foreign governments, such as, Europe and the United States, provided the necessary elements and these oil-producing nations grew rich. In the 1970's, it was decided that more wealth and power could be had if the foreign influence was removed. Foreign nations would still have to purchase the oil, but could no longer cut costs by providing the needed infrastructure to produce the oil. Therefore, **OPEC** was established. The **Organization of Petroleum Exporting** Description: http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/themes/conflict/images/preview7.jpg**Countries** was formed to further control the oil and reduce foreign influence. The oil-producing nations, like Saudi Arabia, experienced a rise in their standard of living. Also, the nations of OPEC, which included some African and Latin American countries, used oil as a political weapon. The Middle Eastern oil-producing nations stopped the flow of oil to the United States because of its support of the Jewish state of **Israel**. Wars were fought over oil with many conflicts erupting among the members of OPEC. Iraq attacked Iran in the 1980's and then invaded and occupied the small nation of **Kuwait** in 1990. This gave Iraqi leader **Saddam Hussein** access to Kuwaiti oil fields and to the highly important Persian Gulf. It was feared that **Iraq** would attack Saudi Arabia, therefore, in 1991, the **United States** under the sanction of the **United Nations**, attacked Iraqi forces in Kuwait and drove them out. Subsequently, the Iraqi army were unable to withstand the American onslaught and the **Persian Gulf War** ended within weeks of its beginning. However, Iraq was able to set fire to thousands of Kuwaiti oil-pipe lines prior to being ousted, creating a huge environmental disaster. Hussein remained in power and continues to be a threat today. The Struggle of Developing NationsChange has always caused conflict within societies. Many of the problems faced by developing nations are the result of attempting changes. Many governments and leaders have been removed from Description: http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/themes/conflict/images/taliban.jpgpower for trying to modernize their nation. The conflict of **tradition** **versus** **modernity** has marked numerous episodes since WWII. The most recent example could be the **Taliban** of Afghanistan, which was fanatically opposed to any outside, foreign influence. Developing, or Third World, nations also cause social and economic conflict in their struggle to become developed. The **Green Revolution** was a success in agricultural processes that could feed more with less work. However, genetically engineered food could not solve all the problems faced by the Developing world, especially as it created a **population explosion**.Description: http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/themes/conflict/images/mogadishu-16-1-2001.jpg **Famine** in **developing nations** has often been the cause of conflict, a recent example being Somalia in which warlords were hording UN food. Environmental issues and pollution are ignored because **industrialization** is the first priority. Poverty and the lack of education remain the biggest threats to political and social stability, economic prosperity, and environmental safety. |

Africa An Aids

