LG 3: Describe how independence movements developed in Africa, India, and the Middle East after World War II and explain why these areas continued to have ongoing conflicts.

Decolonization: The process by which colonies in Africa and Asia gained their independence from European empires.
What led to the rise of independence movements?

- Colonized citizens demanded it!
  - Desire for “self-determination”

- Aftermath of WWI & WWII
  - Imperialist European nations weakened from fighting WWII
  - Could not afford to maintain empires
  - European nations fought to stop the empire-building of Germany, Italy & Japan in World War II
    - Could no longer justify having colonies - Hypocrisy
Ghana

- Colonized by many European nations, including Britain
- Independence movement led by Kwame Nkrumah
  - Later became president
- Civil disobedience – breaking unjust laws peacefully
- Demanded self-rule
- Led Boycotts, strikes, marches, rallies...
- Ghana = 1st country to gain independence (1952)
  - Video clip

*Freedom is not something that one people can bestow on another as a gift. They claim it as their own and none can keep it from them.*

Kwame Nkrumah
South Africa

- Colonized by the British, then the Dutch
- Apartheid: system of extreme segregation in the 1900s
- Independence movement led by Nelson Mandela & the African National Congress (ANC)
  - Mandela was arrested & sentenced to jail for life for his protest work
- Anti-apartheid activists mostly used civil disobedience but later violence as well
- After decades of protest & rebellion against the unfair laws & living conditions, South Africa held the first free elections in 1994
- Mandela’s Life in Summary
Africa after decolonization

**Positives**
- Independence after hundreds of years, in some cases
- Freedom from foreign & often racist rule
- Opportunity to determine best ways to run own nations

**Challenges**
- Creating stable governments
- Building strong economies
- Ethnic violence/civil wars
  - Berlin Conference had drawn the country boundaries
- Corruption
Case study: India

• India: colonized by British starting in the 1700s
  • *Remember the Raj, the Sepoy Rebellion, Queen Victoria*…
  • Indians had little control of their nation

• Mohandas Gandhi
  ➢ Primary leader of India’s independence movement
  ➢ Practiced civil disobedience
  ➢ Salt March – 241 mile march to protest the ban on Indians producing salt, joined by tens of thousands *Salt March 4:00*

➢ 1947 - India won independence from Great Britain!
After decolonization

- Muslims and Hindus were unwilling to accept a single Indian state
  - Each wanted their own nation
- Partition: Division of India
  - Created 2 nations - India (Hindu), Pakistan (Muslim) (later Bangladesh too)
  - Hindus & Muslims migrated to avoid persecution
    - Est. 1 million people died in violence
    - Gandhi objected to the partition & was assassinated by a Hindu extremist
- Tensions between Pakistan & India still persist
  - Nuclear arms race
After WWI, **Britain made promises of statehood to both Palestinians & Jews**

After WWII, the United Nations had control of Israel/Palestine

UN voted to **partition Palestine** into two states

- One Arab (45% of the land, pop 1.2 mill)
- One Jewish (55% of the land, pop 600,000)

Arabs refused to accept the partition or to recognize Israel

More Jews immigrated to Israel from around the world
Conflicts in Israel/Palestine

1948 Arab – Israeli War
• Also known as the Israeli War of Independence
• Began after the declaration of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948
• Forces of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Trans-Jordan and Iraq invaded Israel
• Israel won and occupied Arab territory
• Some Palestinian Arabs fled

The Six Day War
• 1967- Strike by Israel
• Surprise air attack lead to defeat of Egyptian army
• Israel takes Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula (occupied territories)
• Returned the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt in the Camp David Accords in 1978 and Gaza Strip in 2005
# Perspectives on Partition and 1948 War

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Israelis</th>
<th>Palestinians</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Creates state of Israel</td>
<td>• They had no voice</td>
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<td>• War of Independence</td>
<td>• <em>Nabka</em>: “Catastrophe”</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Holocaust and other periods of violence against Jews throughout the past centuries = need for own country</td>
<td>• Land set aside for Palestinians now under control of Arab countries or Israel</td>
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## Perspectives on and Aftermath of 1967 War

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<th>Israelis</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Land gained is a buffer zone to deter future attacks</td>
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<td>• Begin to build settlements in West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights</td>
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<td>• Unified Jerusalem under Israeli control</td>
<td>• West Bank and Gaza Strip become known as “Occupied Territories”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Some will accept Israel at pre-1967 War borders</td>
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<td>• Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) later begins to use terrorism to fight back</td>
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Continued Conflict

- Steps taken towards peace:
  - Camp David Accords – 1978
  - Oslo Accords – 1993
  - Road Map for Peace – 2002

- However, there is continued conflict – both sides have historic ties to the same land
  - 1980s Intifada – continuous uprising by the Palestinians
  - PLO & Hamas terrorist actions
  - Conflict around Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory & settlement building

Decolonization of Palestine 12:00