

Chapter 1 : Mosul Factsheet: brief guide to the city and the liberation offe

Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine empire and the second most important Christian city, after Rome, until the Turks conquered in 1453. The Turks changed the name to Istanbul, changed the Hagia Sophia, the largest Christian Cathedral in the world, into a mosque. In 1920, the British imposed Islamic law.

The Constantinople War Crimes Trials: The legal response to the Armenian Genocide By: By the end of dozens of top Turkish leaders were extra-judicially brought to justice. Understanding the chain of events which led to Nemesis offers important insight to the current difficulties faced by Armenians to achieve reparations and restitution for the crimes committed by Ottoman Turkey. Post World War I As early as May of 1919, the Allied powers formally accused the Ottoman government of crimes against humanity a term which would be made infamous thirty years later following the Holocaust. After the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, Russia lost all interest in bringing the Young Turks to justice. And despite the well-documented and harrowing accounts of American diplomats, including Ambassador Henry Morgenthau Sr. More than any other Allied Power, Britain took the massacre of Armenians seriously. In 1918, Britain had an occupying force of over a million soldiers in the Ottoman Empire which allowed it to exert extensive pressure on the post-war government of Sultan Mehmet VI. Furthermore, the developed British legal system wanted to hold individual members of Ottoman leadership criminally responsible for war crimes. The Sultan, however, feared that if he took large-scale action to prosecute the Young Turks it would provoke a nationalist revolution where he would be overthrown. By April 1919, over 100 top Turkish officials were under arrest. In custody were the grand vizier, the sheikh ul-Islam, the president of the council of state, a former director of intelligence, the commander of the garrison at Yozgat the site of some of the most heinous Armenian massacres, several former valis provincial governors from Smyrna, Bogazlian, Mosul, Broussa, and Diarbekir, the ministers of justice and public instruction, along with dozens of others. Subsequently four major trials began: There were lesser trials for atrocities in Harput, Mosul, Baiburt and Erzinjan. The first verdicts handed down by the tribunals found Major Tevfik Bey, commander of the Yozgat police, and Yozgat lieutenant governor Kemal Bey guilty of organizing deportations, murder, pillage, robbery and crimes against humanity and civilization. Tevfik was sentenced to fifteen years of hard labor and Kemal to death. The courts-martial continued against prominent leaders including Said Halim Pasha, as well as those who had fled to Germany, including Talaat and Enver, who were tried and sentenced to death in absentia. The indictment of Talaat and Enver read in part: It was the result of premeditated decision taken by a central body; and the immolations and excesses which took place were based on oral and written orders issued by the central body. The British army presence shrank by over two-thirds along with its authority. As dozens of the accused Turks began being released, the British gave up on the Ottoman trials and decided to take custody of sixty-eight of the most prominent prisoners who were guilty of the most heinous crimes and transfer them to a British detention center in Malta. This left the Turkish courts-martial a toothless farce. Malta International Tribunals After taking custody of the prisoners, the British assumed that they could implement British-style trials to attain a just conclusion. The idea of having show trials or summarily executing the prisoners was dismissed outright. However, an unusual problem presented itself: Since international law had not yet developed, a new kind of criminal law was needed: The British were left in a quagmire, not wanting to release the prisoners and not having the political will to prosecute. By 1920, War Secretary Winston Churchill was clearly weary of the entire issue. He wanted to make sure that Ataturk would not be pushed into the arms of the Soviet Union. When pressed to choose between prosecuting war criminals and protecting British soldiers, Churchill did not hesitate to advocate choosing the latter. All fifty-nine remaining Turks in custody were subsequently freed. Finally, as a further insult, the Treaty of Lausanne was signed in July by Ataturk, containing no clauses on war crimes tribunals and no mention of an independent Armenia. However, the plan set forth by War Secretary Henry Stimson to put the criminals on trial won out. The Allied effort led by the United States, to punish the Nazis was undertaken mostly out for retribution for the Nazi instigation of the war, rather than just punishing the perpetrators of the Holocaust. While the intention was to punish the Nazis for starting the war, the legacy left by the trials is that it was an effort to

punish crimes against humanity, namely the Holocaust. By over Germans were sentenced, nearly to death. These trials have subsequently led to the adoption of the UN Genocide Convention as well as the later creation of the International Criminal Court. Aftermath Had the war crimes tribunals held in Constantinople been given the opportunity to uncover evidence and document high-level testimony, as was stipulated by the Treaty of Sevres, it would have been significantly more difficult for subsequent Turkish governments to deny, distort or minimize Turkish culpability for the Armenian Genocide. For Britain, it was in their strategic interest to leave Constantinople. For Ataturk, nationalist fervor led to the establishment of the Turkish Republic on the blood of murdered Armenians. For the Armenians, abandoned by the international community, justice became an elusive concept. Unlike Germany, whose Nazi-era leaders were held criminally responsible and punished, the Turkish Republic has never confronted the Armenian Genocide. In the short-run, the lack of adequate criminal prosecution of Young Turk leaders following the Armenian Genocide led to vigilante justice to preserve Armenian dignity. In the long-run it has caused decades of denial, and has given a path for the successor state to avoid reparations. However, during the past five decades, Armenians worldwide have persevered to attain global recognition of the Armenian Genocide. While the perpetrator generation of Turks may have escaped justice, what remains is the civil and territorial compensation to the Armenian people from the benefactors of Genocide.

Chapter 2 : This Week in World War I, March | HuffPost

The Mosul Vilayet (Ottoman Turkish: Vilâyet-i Musul) was a first-level administrative division of the Ottoman Empire. It was created from the northern sanjaks of the Baghdad Vilayet in

The original city stands on the west bank of the Tigris River , opposite the ancient city of Nineveh on the east bank, but the metropolitan area has now grown to encompass substantial areas on both banks, with five bridges linking the two sides. Although for many years it was considered to be a Kurdish city, the majority of its population is now Arab and it does not form part of the area controlled by the Kurdistan Regional Government. The Assyrians call the city by its ancient name, Nineveh. The mound of Kuyunjik in Mosul is the site of the palaces of King Sennacherib and his grandson Ashurbanipal , who established the Library of Ashurbanipal. Mosul later succeeded Nineveh as the Tigris bridgehead of the road that linked Syria and Anatolia with the Median Empire. Christianity was present in Mosul as early as the 2nd century. It became an episcopal seat of the Nestorian faith in the 6th century. In other sources say , during the period of the Caliph Umar ibn al-Khattab , the city was annexed to the Islamic empire by Utba bin Farqad Al-Salami. Mosul was promoted to the status of capital of Mesopotamia under the Umayyads in the 8th century, during which it reached a peak of prosperity. During the Abbassid era it was an important trading centre because of its strategic location astride the trade routes to India , Persia , and the Mediterranean. The Muslim general and conqueror of Sindh , Muhammad bin Qasim , is said to have died here in the eighth century A. A century later they were supplanted by the Uqaylids. Mosul was conquered by the Seljuks in the 11th century. After a period under semi-independent atabeg such as Mawdud , in it became the centre of power of the Zengid dynasty. Saladin besieged the city unsuccessfully in Finally, in , Ottoman sultan Suleyman the Magnificent added it to his empire. Thenceforth Mosul was governed by a pasha. Mosul was celebrated for its line of walls, comprising seven gates with large towers, a renowned hospital maristan and a covered market qaysariyya , and was also famous for its fabrics and flourishing trades. They established a number of schools, health clinics, a printing press and an orphanage. The nuns also established workshops to teach girls sewing and embroidery. Over Iraqi Sisters belong to the this congregation. Please help improve this article by adding reliable references. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. November A coffee house in Mosul, It became a nexus for the movement of oil via truck and pipeline to both Turkey and Syria. It was damaged but not destroyed during the Iran–Iraq War. The opening of the University of Mosul in enabled the education of many in the city and surrounding areas, and it includes prestigious engineering and linguistics departments among its many other academic departments. Secret agreements between the French and the British government known as the Sykes-Picot Agreement decided in to draw a straight line from the Jordan heights to Iran: Mosul was in the northern zone, and would have become a Syrian city; but early discoveries of oil in the region just before the end of the war , pushed the British government to yet another negotiation with the French; to include the region of Mosul into the southern zone or the British zone. The border line that divides the two sides has not changed since , but it has helped determine the boundaries of the modern Middle East for the coming century with the creation of different countries from the Ottoman Empire. After the war, the city and the surrounding area became part of the British mandate of Iraq. However, this mandate was contested by Turkey which continued to claim the area based on the fact that it was under Ottoman control during the signature of the Armistice. In the Treaty of Lausanne , the dispute over Mosul was left for future resolution by the League of Nations. Some of the villages and towns around Mosul with its large Kurdish population were significantly affected by the rebellion suppression by the deposed former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, during the Kurdish-mounted, unsuccessful revolt against the regime. Mosul did not fall within the Kurdish-ruled area, but it was included in the no-fly zones imposed and patrolled by the United States and Britain between and Despite the program Mosul and its surrounding villages remained home to a mixture of Arabs, Kurds, Assyrians , Turkmens, a few Jews , and isolated populations of Yazidis. However, the Turkish parliament refused to grant permission for the operation. When the war did break out in March , US military activity in the area was confined to strategic bombing with airdropped special forces operating in the vicinity.

Mosul fell on April 11, 2014, when the Iraqi Army 5th Corps, loyal to Saddam, abandoned the city and eventually surrendered, two days after the fall of Baghdad. Kurdish fighters took civil control of the city, and started what eventually became a widespread looting before agreeing to cede control to US forces. The brothers were killed in a gunbattle that ensued after a failed attempt at their apprehension. During its tenure, the 1st Airborne Division was able to extensively survey the city and, advised by the 1st Civil Affairs Battalion, non-governmental organizations, and the people of Mosul, began reconstruction work by employing the people of Mosul in the arenas of security, electricity, local governance, drinking water, wastewater, trash disposal, roads, bridges, and environmental concerns. On June 24, 2014, a coordinated series of car-bombs killed 62 people, many of them policemen. On November 10, 2014, insurgents conducted coordinated attacks on the police stations. The policemen who were not killed in the fighting fled the city, leaving Mosul without any civil police force for about a month. Fighting continued well into the 11th with the insurgents on the defensive and US forces scouring neighborhoods for any resistance. The Pentagon reported that 72 other personnel were injured in the attack carried out by a suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest and the uniform of the Iraqi security services. The Islamic terrorist group Army of Ansar al-Sunna partly evolved from Ansar al-Islam and declared responsibility for the attack in an Internet statement. Waleed Kashmoula, was killed by a bomb which exploded outside his office. Mosul Sunni leaders saw it as a Kurdish attempt to seize control over the police. In December 2014, Iraq reopened the airport in Mosul. An Iraqi Airways flight carried Hajj pilgrims to Baghdad, the first commercial flight since US forces declared a no-fly zone in 2014, although further commercial flight remained prohibited. The following day, a suicide bomber dressed as a police officer assassinated the local police chief, Brig. Salah Mohammed al-Jubouri, the director of police for Ninevah province, as he toured the site of the blast. All these factors deprived the city of its historical, scientific, and intellectual foundations in the last 4 years, when a great lot of scientists, professors, academics, doctors, health professionals, engineers, lawyers, journalists, religious clergy both Muslims and Christians, historians, as well as the professionals and artists in all walks of life, were either killed or forced to leave the city under the threat of being shot, exactly as it happened elsewhere in Iraq in the years following Riyadh Jalal Tawfiq, the commander of military operations in Mosul, in the hope of bringing back stability and security to the city [1]. Though the representatives of Mosul in the Iraqi Parliament, the intellectuals of the city, and other concerned humanitarian groups agreed on the pressing need for a solution to the unbearable conditions of the city, they still believe that the solution is merely political and administrative. They are also questioning whether such a large scale military offensive will spare the lives of innocent people. The murder of a dozen Christians, threats that others would be murdered unless they converted to Islam and the destruction of their houses sparked a rapid exodus of the Christian population. Some families crossed the borders to Syria and Turkey while others were given shelter in churches and monasteries. Accusations and blames were exchanged between Sunni fundamentalists and some Kurdish groups for being behind this new exodus. Please see the discussion on the talk page. Please do not remove this message until the dispute is resolved. October A souk traditional market in Mosul city northern Iraq, This city is indicative of the mingling ethnic and religious cultures of Iraq. There is a clear Muslim Arab majority in urban areas, such as downtown Mosul on the Tigris. There is a small community of Yazidi Kurds, about 50, Turkmens and 25, Assyrians. Shabaks Kurds are concentrated on the eastern outskirts of the city. Despite genocidal[clarification needed] efforts by the Arab political parties[who? These plans were counteracted in the s by former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein and his Baath party , which forced some of those minorities to move outside the city, back into Kurdish regions. The city is close to the Kurdish regions of Iraq and is considered by some Kurdish officials to be traditionally Kurdish, and situated in what was historically the Kurdistan region. There have been some demands from Kurdish parties that Mosul should be included in the Kurdistan Regional Government. Clashes erupted in recent months, between Sunni Arabs in Mosul and Kurdish fighters entering the city from the Kurdish regional governorates. Other religions , such as Yazidi , also call Mosul home. The difficult history of Mosul, however, still contributes to tensions among its modern inhabitants. It is well known[by whom? Most do not practice their religion outside of their home for obvious reasons. A larger number may have converted to Islam in the past century but some traditions have been retained. A rabbi in the American army found an abandoned,

dilapidated synagogue in Mosul dating back to the 13th century.

Chapter 3 : Timeline of Major Events of the Crusades - The Sultan and The Saint

The Baghdad railway, The process of construction of a rail line from Constantinople to Baghdad begun during The first train went from Mosul to Gaziantep.

This marked the beginning of the Crusades. Those who joined the armed pilgrimage wore a cross as a symbol of the Church. The Crusades set the stage for several religious knightly military orders, including the Knights Templar, the Teutonic Knights, and the Hospitallers. These groups defended the Holy Land and protected pilgrims traveling to and from the region. These groups departed for Byzantium in August. In the first major clash between the Crusaders and Muslims, Turkish forces crushed the invading Europeans at Cibatous. Another group of Crusaders, led by the notorious Count Emicho, carried out a series of massacres of Jews in various towns in the Rhineland in 1099, drawing widespread outrage and causing a major crisis in Jewish-Christian relations. When the four main armies of Crusaders arrived in Constantinople, Alexius insisted that their leaders swear an oath of loyalty to him and recognize his authority over any land regained from the Turks, as well as any other territory they might conquer. All but Bohemond resisted taking the oath. The city surrendered in late June. The Fall of Jerusalem

Despite deteriorating relations between the Crusaders and Byzantine leaders, the combined force continued its march through Anatolia, capturing the great Syrian city of Antioch in June. Second Crusade Having achieved their goal in an unexpectedly short period of time after the First Crusade, many of the Crusaders departed for home. To govern the conquered territory, those who remained established four large western settlements, or Crusader states, in Jerusalem, Edessa, Antioch and Tripoli. After Louis and Conrad managed to assemble their armies at Jerusalem, they decided to attack the Syrian stronghold of Damascus with an army of some 50,000, the largest Crusader force yet. The combined Muslim forces dealt a humiliating defeat to the Crusaders, decisively ending the Second Crusade. Nur al-Din added Damascus to his expanding empire in 1154. In 1187, Saladin began a major campaign against the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem. His troops virtually destroyed the Christian army at the battle of Hattin, taking back the important city along with a large amount of territory. From the recaptured city of Jaffa, Richard reestablished Christian control over some of the region and approached Jerusalem, though he refused to lay siege to the city. In September 1192, Richard and Saladin signed a peace treaty that reestablished the Kingdom of Jerusalem though without the city of Jerusalem and ended the Third Crusade. In response, the Crusaders declared war on Constantinople, and the Fourth Crusade ended with the devastating Fall of Constantinople in 1204, marked by a bloody conquest, looting and near-destruction of the magnificent Byzantine capital later that year.

Final Crusades Throughout the remainder of the 13th century, a variety of Crusades aimed not so much to topple Muslim forces in the Holy Land but to combat any and all of those seen as enemies of the Christian faith. The Albigensian Crusade aimed to root out the heretical Cathari or Albigensian sect of Christianity in France, while the Baltic Crusades sought to subdue pagans in Transylvania. The movement never reached the Holy Land. The peace treaty expired a decade later, and Muslims easily regained control of Jerusalem. This battle, known as the Seventh Crusade, was a failure for Louis. The Mamluks As the Crusaders struggled, a new dynasty, known as the Mamluks, descended from former slaves of the Islamic Empire, took power in Egypt. Under the ruthless Sultan Baybars, the Mamluks demolished Antioch in 1268. In response, Louis organized the Eighth Crusade in 1270. The initial goal was to aid the remaining Crusader states in Syria, but the mission was redirected to Tunis, where Louis died. Edward I of England took on another expedition in 1271. This battle, which is often grouped with the Eighth Crusade but is sometimes referred to as the Ninth Crusade, accomplished very little and was considered the last significant crusade to the Holy Land. Many historians believe this defeat marked the end of the Crusader States and the Crusades themselves. Though the Church organized minor Crusades with limited goals after 1291—mainly military campaigns aimed at pushing Muslims from conquered territory, or conquering pagan regions—support for such efforts diminished in the 16th century, with the rise of the Reformation and the corresponding decline of papal authority. Effects of the Crusades While the Crusades ultimately resulted in defeat for Europeans, many argue that they successfully extended the reach of Christianity and Western civilization. The Roman Catholic Church experienced an increase in wealth, and the

power of the Pope was elevated after the Crusades ended. Trade and transportation also improved throughout Europe as a result of the Crusades. The wars created a constant demand for supplies and transportation, which resulted in ship-building and the manufacturing of various supplies. After the Crusades, there was a heightened interest in travel and learning throughout Europe, which some historians believe may have paved the way for the Renaissance. Among followers of Islam, however, the Crusaders were regarded as immoral, bloody and savage. The ruthless and widespread massacre of Muslims, Jews and other non-Christians resulted in bitter resentment that persisted for many years. Timeline for the Crusades and Christian Holy War to c. United States Naval Academy.

Mosul, on the west bank, became the principle city in northern Mesopotamia in the 8th century. In it was sacked by the Mongols. It was part of the Ottoman Empire from to

Bring fact-checked results to the top of your browser search. The Crusade army left Nicaea for Antioch on June 26 and found crossing the arid and mountainous Anatolia difficult. At Dorylaeum on July 1, , Turks attacked the advance column of the Crusader army. Despite the heat and a rain of arrows, the Crusaders held their ground, and, when the rest of the army drew up, the Turks were routed. A major victory in open warfare had been achieved by cooperation between the separate Western contingents and the Greeks. Dassy, , Croisades, origines et consequences Further advance across Anatolia was even more arduous , and it was only after suffering many casualties, especially in the region of the Taurus Mountains , that the Crusaders arrived near Antioch on October The first of the Crusader states, the county of Edessa would provide a valuable buffer against Turkish attacks on Antioch and other Christian territories. One of the great cities of the Levant and one of the patriarchal sees of Christianity , Antioch was surrounded by an enormous circle of walls studded with more than towers. Despite reinforcements and supplies from Genoese and English ships and later from the patriarch of Jerusalem , then in Cyprus , the siege proved long and difficult, and many died of starvation or disease. Spring brought the threat of counterattack by a relief force under Kerbogha of Mosul. The situation seemed so hopeless that some Crusaders deserted and attempted to return home. Among these was Peter the Hermit , who was caught and returned to the host, where he was quietly forgiven. Bohemond, meanwhile, proposed that the first to enter the city should have possession of it, provided the emperor did not make an appearance. The Norman had, in fact, already made contact with a discontented commander within, who proceeded to admit him over a section of the walls on June 3, The other Crusaders followed Bohemond into the dozing city and quickly captured it. Only the citadel held out. Thus, Antioch was restored to Christian rule. The victory, however, was incomplete. Kerbogha arrived with an enormous Turkish army and completely invested the city, which was already very low on provisions. Once again the situation seemed hopeless. Nonetheless, on June 28 the Crusader army moved out of the city. The Turkish forces were not of high quality and had only tenuous loyalty to Kerbogha. When they saw the size of the Crusade forces and the resolve of the men, the Turks began to flee. The Crusade leaders then fell into violent disagreement over the final disposition of Antioch. Bohemond, who had been responsible for the capture of the city and then had led its defense, wanted it for himself. Raymond, however, insisted that it be returned to the emperor. Unable to come to terms on Antioch, Bohemond and Raymond refused to march to Jerusalem, which effectively stalled the Crusade. The leaders agreed to depart only after the rank and file threatened to tear down the walls of Antioch. On January 13, , the army then set out for Jerusalem under the leadership of Raymond of Saint-Gilles. Bohemond, ignoring his previous oaths, remained in Antioch.

Chapter 5 : Mosul Vilayet - Wikipedia

ISIS's End Times Have Begun. It's Going to Get Ugly. about 50 miles south of of Mosul, Iraq, on Sept. (a stand-in for Christian invaders) at Dabiq before conquering Constantinople.

Thousands of Baghdad inhabitants were massacred. Iraq, once again, became a subordinate province of a larger empire, whose capital was far away. Under the Mongol Il-khan rulers, Iraq experienced further economic decline, with tax revenues apparently sinking to a mere one-tenth of their pre-Mongol levels. Matters got even worse when civil wars broke out between rival Il-khanid chieftains. In the chaos under the later Il-khans the Mongol Jalayrid tribe seized control of Iraq. Then another conqueror from central Asia, Timur, besieged and sacked Baghdad. These are now pushing into western Iran. What is happening in Iraq in BCE

One of the most important developments in world history is taking place in Mesopotamia. Here, on the flood plains of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates, the fertile soil brought down from the mountains by the great rivers has given rise to much denser populations than anywhere else in the world. The arid climate, plus dangerous spring floods, has called for the creation of large-scale irrigation systems, to channel and store water for crops, and to protect communities from the raging waters. Over the centuries, large communities with densely concentrated populations of many thousands of people have grown up. These are the first true cities in human history. To help them manage the economic life of these cities effectively, the priests who control them are gradually perfecting the first known writing script and numeric system – key developments in human progress. The civilization of Ancient Mesopotamia is being built by a people known as the Sumerians. They are constructing the first urban and literate culture in world history. It has now expanded to the north, to what would later be the land of Assyria. The Sumerians have now entered the Bronze Age. Bronze is used in the weapons and decorations of the ruling classes; it is far too expensive to be used by farmers, and agriculture basically remains at a stone-age level of technology. However, the demand for copper and tin, the ingredients of bronze, means that the Mesopotamian city-states now lie at the centre of an expanding network of long-distance trade routes. The small Sumerian states are constantly at war with one another, and have developed the first organised armies in history, together with the systematic taxation and bureaucracies to support them. The economic life of these city-states is highly centralized on the temples. Go to more maps and information on Ancient Mesopotamia

What is happening in Iraq in BCE Over the past thousand years, kingdoms and empires have come and gone in Mesopotamia. The first recorded empire in world history appeared briefly under the fierce Sargon and his descendants c. He conquered a large empire covering most of Mesopotamia and parts of Syria. Although his empire did not endure after his death, the city of Babylon remained the primary city of ancient Mesopotamia, with the Sumerian cities being eclipsed. The history of Mesopotamia has been disrupted by periods of outside invasion and internal fragmentation. By BCE new invaders divide the ancient lands of Mesopotamia between them. The Kassites rule Babylonia in the south, while Assyria is now part of the extensive but short-lived kingdom of the Mitanni. The powerful and warlike kingdom of Elam lies to the east. Despite the recent origins of these powerful states, this period represents the high point of Bronze Age civilization in Mesopotamia. The next few centuries will see great upheavals hit this brilliant world. The powerful Bronze Age kingdoms of Babylonia, Assyria and Elam have been overthrown or greatly weakened by the incursion of Aramean and other nomadic peoples into Mesopotamia. Amongst these, a semi-nomadic people called the Chaldeans have settled southern Mesopotamia, the ancient heartland of the Sumerians, and have formed a strong kingdom in Babylonia. Elam has been destroyed by incoming Iranian peoples such as the Medes and the Persians. Assyria has been hard pressed, at times almost overrun; it has only managed to survive by organizing itself along more militaristic lines. Go to more maps and information on Ancient Mesopotamia

What is happening in Iraq in BCE The past few centuries have seen the rise and fall of great Mesopotamian empires, first Assyria, and then Babylon. With the recent conquest of the Babylonian empire by Persians, however, the people of Mesopotamia now find themselves ruled from outside the region for the first time in their long history. The independent civilisation of ancient Mesopotamia has effectively come to an end. Its legacy, however, is still keenly felt, with the new

Persian rulers adopting its art, architecture and writing wholesale. Nevertheless, the society and culture of Mesopotamia is changing. The Assyrian and Babylonian policy of uprooting conquered peoples from their homelands and moving them to other areas has caused massive population upheaval. This has led to the decline of local languages and the rise of Aramaic as the lingua franca of Mesopotamia. This in turn has led to the spread of the Aramaic alphabet. These developments make international trade easier, as do the generally high level of Persian rule and the great Persian-built roads which now span the region. Whereas the Assyrian and Babylonian periods were times of economic depression for most areas outside the imperial cores at least, the archaeological record suggests so, the Persian period is one of prosperity for Mesopotamia. Greek-style cities – the largest of which is Seleucia-on-the-Tigris – have sprung up, settled by colonists from the Greek and Macedonian homelands. In recent years, however, Mesopotamia has become the scene of a struggle between the Seleucid kings and an invading Iranian people from central Asia, the Parthians. These steppe nomads are gaining the upper hand. Chronic political instability, together with the continuous wars with external foes Seleucids, Steppe Nomads and, latterly, Romans have prevented the Parthian kings from properly consolidating their control over Mesopotamia. As a result, several semi-independent kingdoms, only loosely subordinate to the Parthian monarchs, now cover large parts of the region, for example Characene, Adiabene and Gordyene. Most of the Parthian kings have been anxious to present themselves as pro-Greek in their sympathies. Aramaic is spoken by most of the rural population. The pro-Greek policies, however, are far from being universally popular amongst the Parthian ruling class. They are therefore vulnerable to changes in political fortunes, and the anti-Greek sentiments of the traditional Parthian nobility are gaining in strength. Two destructive invasions by the Romans have irreparably weakened many of the centres of Hellenistic culture, including the largest city in the region, Ctesiphon the old Seleucia-on-Tigris. Politically, Mesopotamia has experienced increasing fragmentation, with the small kingdoms asserting more and more independence from the Parthian government. Even that part of Mesopotamia which had been directly controlled by the Parthian king, the old province of Babylonia, has now passed into the hands of local rulers. This Persian dynasty has created a centralized empire, and the small kingdoms which the Parthians tolerated have now come firmly under Sassanid control. As in the Roman empire to its west, new religions have spread in the region. Whilst the Persian ruling class is loyal to Zoroastrianism, Christianity is widespread amongst the population at large, and many of the cities house flourishing Jewish colonies. A new religion also makes its appearance in Sassanid Mesopotamia, that of Manichaeism. Under the Sasanian dynasty of Persia, Iraq has experienced one of its golden ages. Economically, the region probably attains its highest levels prior to the twentieth century. Go to more maps and information on Ancient Mesopotamia What is happening in Iraq in CE For Iraq, the last years of the Sasanian empire were marked by civil war and a dramatic deterioration in the irrigation system. A vast area of southern Iraq revert to swampland which it remained until the 20th century. It was into this situation that Arab armies swept in and swiftly conquered the country from the Sasanians. As in other parts of the huge Islamic Caliphate, the conquered were allowed to remain Christians and keep their laws and customs. Huge numbers of Arabs did come into the country, but were settled in large garrison cities, at Al-Kufah and Al-Basra. After the s, Iraq became a centre of opposition to the rule of the Umayyad caliphs, based in Syria. Large numbers of Iraqi Muslims joined the Shi-ite sect, and these factors come together to give popular support in Iraq to a rebel army from Iran. Iraq experienced a period of peace and prosperity. From the early 9th century, however, destructive civil wars caused a great deal of damage, to both the city of Baghdad and the surrounding countryside. A ferocious revolt by black slaves in southern Iraq made matters worse, with Basra experiencing a terrible sack. They are based in the city of Mosul. After a group from northern Iran, the Buyids, marched on Baghdad and seized power for themselves. Next map, Iraq in What is happening in Iraq in CE The Buyid dynasty went into rapid decline in the last years of the 10th century, losing control of all Iraq except Baghdad and its neighbourhood. Yet despite all this – perhaps even because of it – Baghdad remained a vibrant cultural centre, with a free-thinking environment that firmer government control might have stamped on. Baghdad remained the city of the caliph, although real power now resided with the Seljuq sultan at Isfahan, in Iran. From the mid 11th century, Seljuq power began to decline. Northern Iraq is now part of a large sultanate spanning Syria and Egypt. It is now no longer the wealthiest region in the Middle East, and

its population has declined considerably over the past few centuries. In , Iraq was conquered by the Safavids, a Shi-ite religious movement that had seized control of Iran. Then, in , Iraq came under the rule of the Ottoman empire. Iraq has thus become again a subordinate province within a large empire, distant from the political hub. However, the country now knows a measure of peace and stability after centuries of political turmoil, military insecurity and economic neglect. This long period of impoverishment means that what was once the bread-basket of the Middle East now has its agriculture restricted to only a few areas, around Baghdad and Basra, with most of the country given over to a nomadic pastoral economy. Next map, Iraq in What is happening in Iraq in CE In the late 17th and 18th centuries, Iraq was the scene of mounting conflict amongst the Arab tribes of the desert. To deal with this, as well as to defend the eastern frontier against Persian aggression, the Ottomans have allowed the Pashas governors of Baghdad to impose order on the province using Mamluq forces, recruited in Georgia. These pashas succeeded in imposing a measure of order on the desert tribes, and in extending their power throughout most of Iraq. They paid tribute to Constantinople, but otherwise governed as independent hereditary rulers within Iraq. In the Mamluqs seized power from the pashas of Iraq. They have owed only nominal obedience to sultan. This is particularly so in their dealings with Europeans. They sign treaties with them and allow the British East India Company to establish trading relations with them. Next map, Iraq in What is happening in Iraq in CE Factional strife within the local Mamluq ruling group weakened their power, and led to a progressive loss of control over the Arab tribes in Iraq. Successive attempts by the Ottoman government in Constantinople to re-assert control over the country continued to fail, until In that year, however, the integrity of the empire was threatened by Mohammed Ali of Egypt, who occupied Syria. The Ottoman government in Constantinople then made a determined effort to reimpose control over Iraq by sending in a powerful army. In the following years they have been able to extend their rule throughout the entire country.

Chapter 6 : Berlinâ€“Baghdad railway - Wikipedia

From Constantinople to Antioch. Late in May the Crusaders and a contingent of Byzantine soldiers reached the capital of the Turkish sultanate, Nicaea (now Ä°znik, Turkey), which surrendered to the Byzantines on June

Politically, this is a catastrophe for American hopes of preserving the settlement they had uneasily imposed on the region, while a humanitarian catastrophe looms. Although the destruction of Christian Mosul has been drawn out over many years, the imminent end is still shocking. The best way to describe its implications is to imagine the annihilation of some great European center of the faith, such as Assisi, Cologne, or York. Once upon a time, Mosul was the heart of a landscape that was no less thoroughly Christ-haunted. Mosul itself was a truly ancient Assyrian center, which continued to flourish through the Middle Ages. No later than the second century AD, the city had a Christian presence. This was a vital base for the Church of the East, the so-called Nestorian Church, which made it a metropolitan see. These churches used Syriac, a language close to that of the apostles, and Syriac-speaking villages still survive in the Mosul area. Mosul stood at the center of a network of monasteries, some of which were among the first and most influential in the whole monastic movement. Within thirty miles of the city, we find St. Mar Bihnam, Mar Gewargis St. George , Mar Mikhael St. As in Western Europe, such houses were crucial to the vast tradition of Christian faith and learning, and the greatest yielded nothing to such legendary houses as Monte Cassino or Iona. At its height, Mar Mattai was one of the greatest houses in the Christian world, with thousands of monks. Thomas mentions dozens of names of small religious houses in the Mosul region, most of which we can no longer locate. The remains of many, presumably, survive under Iraqi village mosques. Northern Iraq, in its day, was at least as densely packed with monasteries and hermitages as Ireland. The Church of the East never had the mixed blessing of a close alliance with a friendly secular power. From the third century, the Mosul region was ruled by Persia, while Muslim commanders took over in the seventh. For centuries, though, those churches and monasteries carried on in their well-established way. In the histories of the towering thirteenth century polymath Gregory Bar Hebraeus, the Mosul region still features as one of the hubs of the Christian universe Gregory himself was buried at Mar Mattai. When Christian emissaries from Mongol China traveled through the Middle East around , visiting the key centers of the faith, naturally Mosul was a highlight of their itinerary. Even so, Christian life persisted in the surrounding religious houses. The ruin of Christian Mosul is a modern affair. By the early twentieth century, the dreadful state of public order in Northern Mesopotamia had severely reduced the Christian population, while Kurdish raids and bandit attacks repeatedly hit the monasteries, and devastated their libraries. The First World War offered a near-death blow, as the Ottoman Turks inflicted local Christians the same attempted genocide they were currently directing against the Armenians. By the s, the once transcontinental Church of the East, the Assyrian Church, was reduced to about forty thousand survivors clinging to the Mosul area. Church in Mosul at about Even so, the Assyrian community revived, and it coexisted with other Christian communities, with the Catholic Chaldeans, with Syrian Orthodox, and with Orthodox Arabs. But to no avail. Islamist violence surged after the U.

Chapter 7 : Crusades - From Constantinople to Antioch | racedaydvl.com

After months of buildup and political maneuvering, the battle to retake Mosul from ISIS has now officially begun. It was ISIS's conquest of the Iraqi city in that woke up the world to just.

The Mersin –Yenice–Adana line existed prior to the construction of the Bagdad railway and was used for the latter in its Yenice–Adana section. A long article outlining the positive benefits of the enterprise appeared in the Times newspaper. However, in the Hamburg-American Steamship Line announced its intention to run regular steamships between Europe and the Persian Gulf. After a futile price war the British lines, which had lost their monopoly, came to agreement in with their competitors, ending a rivalry which had caused considerable political concern. However the Young Turk government could not offer further railway concessions without raising customs duties from 11 to 14 percent. Such a raise required the agreement of all the powers, but was vetoed by Britain after Sir Edward Grey spoke in the House of Commons: The British were worried that the Young Turks could block off oil supplies vital for the navy. Firstly, historians and political analysts who wrote about this issue directly after the war were not in possession of closed diplomatic records. Full diplomatic documents of the German government were released between and , British documents between and Only some Russian documents were released, and Italian documents only came out after the Second World War. Regardless of diplomacy, financing and agreements, and later points of view, the existence of the railway would have created a threat to British dominance over German trade, as it would have given German industry access to oil, and a port in the Persian Gulf. The importance of oil as opposed to coal as fuel was recognised, as it could greatly improve the performance and capacity of the rival navies. The presence of the British there, and the creation of Kuwait to block non-British access to the Persian Gulf speaks to the strategic importance. Other historians have argued that intractable nationality issues in the denial of self-determination to minority groups were among the dominant causes of World War I. Some of the optimism should be attributed to the willingness of the German government to compose long-standing differences First, there should be no differential treatment on any railway in Asiatic Turkey; second, two British representatives approved by HMG should be admitted to the Board of the Baghdad Railway Company; third, the terminus of the railway should be at Basra; last, no railway should be constructed from Basra to the Gulf without the sanction of HMG. This was followed by an Anglo-German agreement on the similar lines in London on 15 June However these agreements, at the last eleventh hour, just prior to the outbreak of the Great War, were not turned into practical actions, but remained to be unreal. In fact, restriction of German access to Mesopotamia and its oil, and strategic exclusion from rail access to the Persian Gulf was enforced by British military presence during World War I, and afterwards in the Treaty of Versailles by removal of the would-be Baghdad railway from German ownership. Thus the potential consequences to Anglo-German economic rivalry in oil and trade by the existence of the railway, were ultimately addressed by ownership and outright control, rather than by agreement. During World War I[edit] Main article: Another spur, heading east from Aleppo, ended at Nusaybin. Additionally some rail was laid starting in Baghdad reaching north to Tikrit and south to Kut. This left a gap of some kilometres miles between the railway lines. Additionally, there were three mountains which the railway was going to go through, but the tunnels through these three mountains were not complete. So the railway was, in fact, broken into four different sections at the start of the war. The total time to get from Constantinople to Baghdad during the war was 22 days. The fighting in Mesopotamia remained somewhat isolated from the rest of the war. During the conflict, Turkish and German workers, together with allied prisoners of war, laboured to complete the railway for military purposes but with limited manpower and so many more important things to spend money on, only two of the gaps were closed. After World War I[edit] Railway passes varied landscapes: Further west, the Treaty also set the border immediately north of the town and railway station of Meidan Ekbis. People in Turkey , Italy , France, and Britain created various arrangements that gave a certain degree of control over the Baghdad railway to various indistinct interests in those nations. Investors, speculators, and financiers were involved by in secretive and clandestine ways. The British Army had completed the southeastern section from Baghdad to Basra, so that

part was under British control. The French held negotiations to obtain some degree of control over the central portion of the railway, and Turkish interests controlled the oldest sections that had been constructed inside of Turkey, but talks continued to be held after The United States involvement in the Near East began in when Turkey approved the Chester concession , which aroused disapprovals from France and the United Kingdom. In , a passenger service by road was introduced to bridge the missing section of line between Nusaybin and Kirkuk. At different times the service used Rolls-Royce cars and Thornycroft buses. Railway passes varied landscapes: In , Iraq bought all railways in its territory from the UK and started building the missing section of line from Tel Kotchek to Baiji. In that year, the Robert Stephenson and Hawthorns locomotive works in Britain built a class of streamlined Pacific steam locomotives to haul the Taurus Express between Baghdad and Tel Kotchek. This replaced a metre gauge line built in and for the first time connected the Bosphorus with the Persian Gulf without a break of gauge. Due to the strained relations between Turkey, Syria and Iraq however, continuous traffic remained rare, and other means of transport soon reduced its strategic and economic relevance. The first train went from Mosul to Gaziantep, taking 18 hours. On 18 February a return journey departed from Gaziantep to Mosul.

Chapter 8 : Mosul | Religion-wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

The Ottoman government in Constantinople then made a determined effort to reimpose control over Iraq by sending in a powerful army. In the following years they have been able to extend their rule throughout the entire country.

On two separate occasions, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan criticized the Treaty of Lausanne, which created the borders of modern Turkey, for leaving the country too small. At first glance, the maps of Turkey appearing on Turkish TV recently resemble similar irredentist maps put out by proponents of greater Greece , greater Macedonia , greater Bulgaria , greater Armenia , greater Azerbaijan , and greater Syria. They are maps of Turkey, just a little bigger. Specifically, it claimed those territories that were still held by the Ottoman army in October when Constantinople signed an armistice with the allied powers. When the allies made it clear they planned to leave the empire with a lot less than it held in , it led to renewed fighting in which troops under Mustafa Kemal Ataturk defeated European forces to establish Turkey as it exists today. It was an exaggerated claim, given the parts of the pact that were left out, but also an eminently practical one, intended to prevent a new and precarious Turkish republic from losing what it had achieved in pursuit of unrealistic territorial ambitions. Indeed, while countries like Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, and Hungary brought disaster on themselves by trying to forcibly rewrite their postwar borders, Turkey – under Ataturk and his successor – wisely resisted this urge. The suggestion, against all evidence , is that better statesmen, or perhaps a more patriotic one, could have gotten more. Turkish special forces have worked with the Iraqi Turkmen Front since at least in order to expand Turkish influence and counter the PKK in northern Iraq. Over the past century, the Turkish minorities in northern Greece and Cyprus have played a similar role. That is, their well-being has been a subject of genuine concern for Turkish nationalists but also a potential point of leverage with Athens to be used as needed. Greece, of course, has behaved similarly with regard to the Greek minority in Turkey. Not surprisingly, both populations have often suffered reciprocally as a result. Although Ankara raised concerns over the status of the Crimean Tatars after Russia seized the peninsula, it seems to have subsequently concluded that improved relations with Moscow take precedence over ethnic affinities. Ankara has been keen to maintain a mutually beneficial economic relationship with Iran despite backing opposite sides in Syria and in the past year has also expressed its willingness to make peace with Assad if circumstances require it. Not only do countries regularly find themselves sucked into civil wars on their doorstep, but the points at which Turkey has proved susceptible to irredentism in the past have all come at moments of change and uncertainty similar to what the Middle East is experiencing today. Subsequently, it was only when it appeared Greece might annex the island that Turkey invaded to prevent this change in the status quo. Similarly, Turkey has kept military forces in the area of Mosul for the better part of two decades, in order to conduct operations against the PKK. Ankara has always portrayed this intervention, with little controversy in Turkey, as a matter of national security and self-defense. The United States and Russia continue to play an outsized role in the region despite lacking any of these connections to it. Erdogan noted that some countries were telling Turkey, which shares a mile border with Iraq, to stay out. Behind the history, in other words, Ankara is all too aware of the fact that the power to do so remains the only rationale for foreign intervention that matters. Hurrem Atayer, published by Bakis Kutuphanesi

Chapter 9 : Medieval II Total War Regions on a Map Quiz - By Secosatarian

See distance to other cities from Baghdad - Iraq measured in kilometers (km), miles and nautical miles and their local time. Distances are measured using a direct path, as the crow flies and the compass direction is shown as well.

What is considered modern day Mosul is actually the twin cities of Mosul and the ancient Assyrian city of Nineveh, sitting on opposite sides of the Tigris River on the Nineveh Plains in Nineveh province, northern Iraq. It is kilometres north of Baghdad, 85 kilometres west of Erbil, and kilometres south of the border with Turkey. Current estimates of the number of people still living in the city vary from , to over one million. Historically it also had a sizeable Jewish population. The majority of the population is Sunni Muslim. Historically, Mosul was a centre of trade, a thriving city on the Silk Road. The Mosul Dam is one of the largest in the Middle East. The city also had gained a reputation as a centre for education. The University of Mosul, established in , rose to become one of the largest education and research centres in the Middle East. The university campus was reportedly adapted into a base for ISIS militants and subsequently bombed by the coalition. Mosul was a meeting place of culture and commerce for millennia, creating a city rich in history and diverse in population. A centre of trade between Persia and the Mediterranean, it saw many cultures crossing its streets, often for trade. The geographic area has been inhabited since around BC. Nineveh, on the east bank of the Tigris, was chosen as the capital of the Assyrian Empire around BC and was briefly the largest city in the world. Mosul, on the west bank, became the principle city in northern Mesopotamia in the 8th century. In it was sacked by the Mongols. It was part of the Ottoman Empire from to Ottoman Turkey and Allied nations signed the Treaty of Sevres in that gave Kurds the right to form a state, including those from Mosul. As a disputed area, Mosul was included in the no-fly zone imposed over Kurdish areas in Mosul under the Caliphate: Mosul fell to the Islamic State on June 10, Under ISIS, there have been daily executions, usually held after prayers. Islamic police are everywhere. Residents have no work and no money. Malnutrition is a problem. Supplies are irregular and when they are available, people do not always have money. ISIS demands a tax. If you cannot pay, the militants may seize your home or car. The primary force leading the offensive will be the Iraqi army along with Iraqi security forces, including counter-terrorism and police forces. They will be the sole forces entering the city of Mosul. This was decided in discussions between Baghdad, Erbil and coalition partners. Fears of sectarian violence, as seen in Fallujah where Shiite militias, the Hashd al-Shaabi, were accused of serious human rights violations against the Sunni residents, are high and the decision to limit the forces entering the city was made to mitigate that threat. The Iraqi army will be supported by several other forces who will assist in encircling the city. This includes the Kurdish Peshmerga, who are located east and north of Mosul, along with local militia groups trained and operating under Peshmerga command such as Christian and Yezidi brigades. The Peshmerga currently control the majority of routes into Mosul; they are also the forces closest to the city, within just a few kilometres. No force that is not under the command of the Iraqi government will participate. The US-led coalition will play an advisory role in addition to providing air and logistical support. Peshmerga and Iraqi forces have established joint centres to coordinate for the offensive. They have created joint command centres - one located in Erbil and one in Makhmour. Iraqi, Peshmerga, and coalition military leaders operate jointly out of these command centres. They have also created a joint media centre that will operate through three media offices - one from the Peshmerga, one from the Iraqi forces, and one from the international coalition. The Kurdistan Regional Government has given permission to the Iraqi army to enter Kurdish territory in order to approach Mosul. A 30, strong force consisting of Peshmerga, Iraqi security and counter-terrorism forces, local police and 14, Nineveh tribal fighters are prepared for the offensive. Up to one million people may flee the military offensive, from the city itself as well as surrounding towns and countryside. They have sufficient funds to build three camps for IDPs - with enough space to house 6, families in total. Baghdad is also building three camps with capacity for 20, families. It is not enough, however, for the numbers expected.