

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

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STATE

- A politically organized territory
- Administered by a sovereign government
- Recognized by a significant portion of the international community.

A state must also contain:

- a **permanent resident population**
- an **organized economy**

State



- An independent political unit holding sovereignty over a territory (Canada)
- Casually referred to as "country"
- United States of America: 51 theoretically independent units that chose to join together in 1 'State'

Spatial Features of State

Spatial Features of States

- Size - important for resources, power, governance, communication
 - Russian Federation- 17,075,000 km² Nauru - 20 km²
- Shape - for governance/transport
- Location - Absolute & Relative

Spatial Features of State

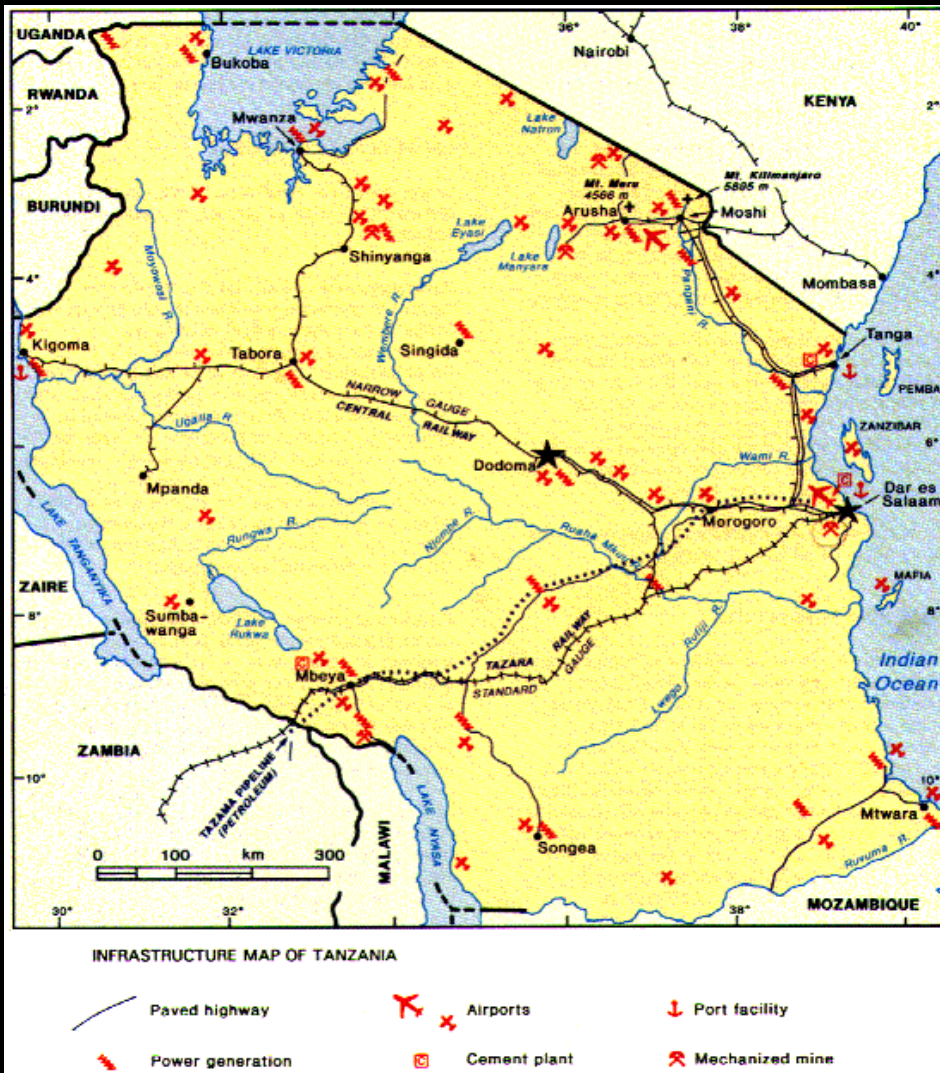
- *Location*
 - ✓ *Absolute*
 - ✓ *Sea-side*
 - ✓ *Strategic*
 - ✓ *Relative*
- *Area/Size*
 - ✓ *Very Small*
 - ✓ *Small*
 - ✓ *Medium*
 - ✓ *Large*
 - ✓ *Very Large*
- *Shape*
 - ✓ *Compact*
 - ✓ *Non-Compact*

Location

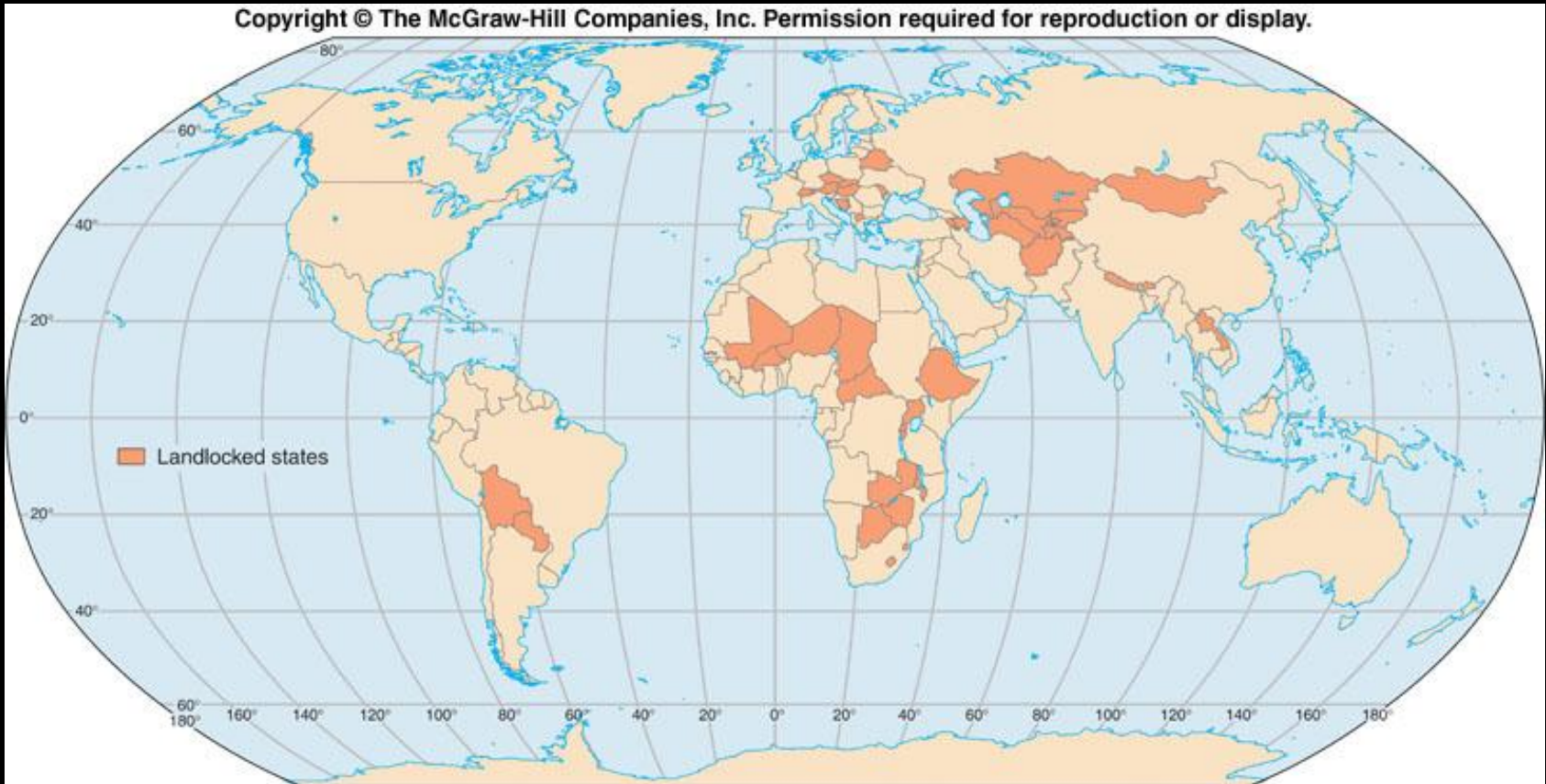
- Absolute Location
 - Position with respect to grid (lat/long) Gibraltar's absolute location is $36^{\circ}09'N$ $5^{\circ}21'W$
- Relative Location
 - Position with respect to other states and regions. Gibraltar's relative location is crucial as a British colony at the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea.

Absolute & relative location: Tanzania

- Colonial legacies today



Relative Location



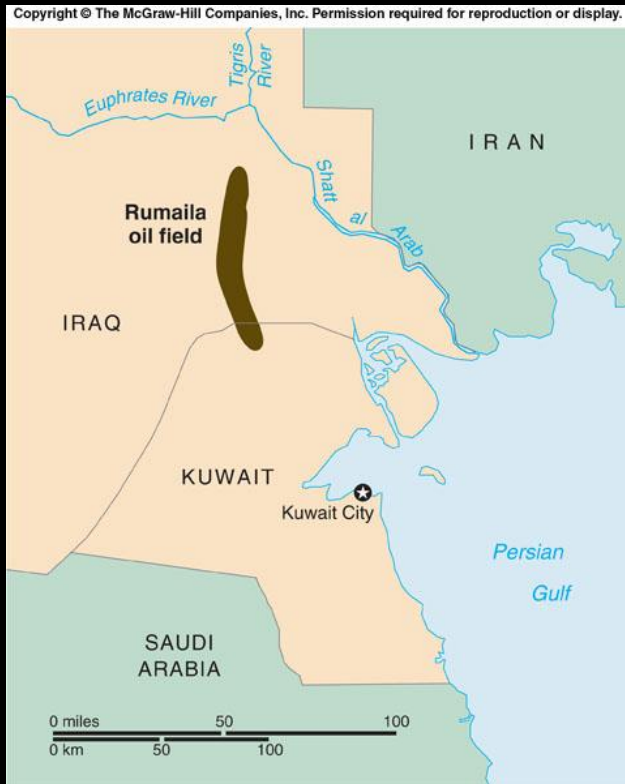
- Landlocked States are disadvantaged for access to ocean and resources
- Some have land corridors to ocean (e.g. Democratic Rep of Congo)

Landlocked Bolivia (Sea-side Location)

- 1879-1883, Bolivia & Peru allied against Chile: War of The Pacific
- Chile won and took Antofagasta, Tarapaca, Arica coastal areas – rich in nitrates
- Bolivia lost access to Pacific and became landlocked
- Bolivian Navy still practices on Lake Titicaca



Strategic Locations



■ Strategic Location of oil resources in Iraq/Kuwait.

- Relative locations of importance to two or more states
- Military or economic significance
- differs over time – e.g. results of change from wind to coal to petroleum as fuel for shipping
- many Straits are good examples -- Malacca, Bosphorus, Bering Strait, Strait of Hormuz, Strait of Gibraltar
- Canals – Suez, Panama

Where the Oil Is

Despite the Bush administrations desire to reduce the nations dependence on oil from the politically unstable Middle East and the increased efforts by American energy companies to find oil and natural gas closer to home, the region remains at the heart of the business because of its vast reserves.

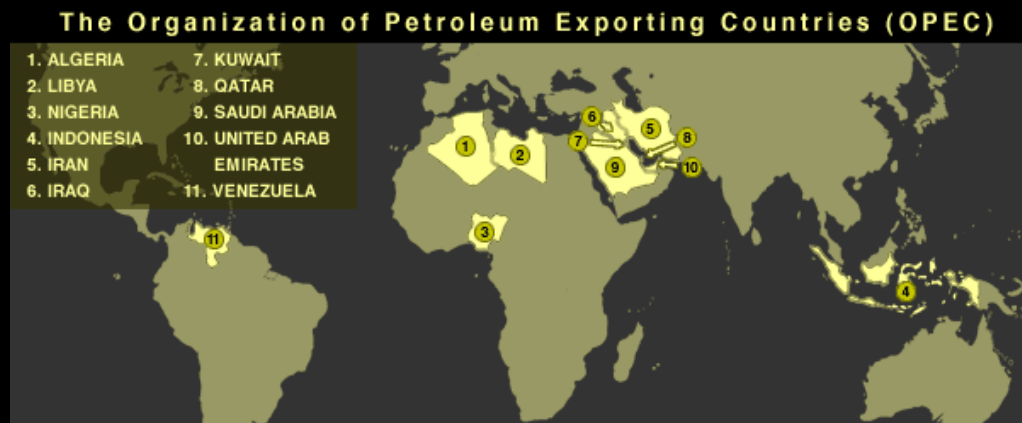
KNOWN OIL RESERVES BY REGION, IN 2000

In billions of barrels



Source: Energy Information Administration

Strategic location: oil geopolitics & formation of OPEC



- 1960 - OPEC founded in Baghdad by Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela to win better return for oil producers whose output is controlled by Western multinationals.
- 1973 - An Arab oil embargo during Arab-Israeli war disrupts oil flows and triggers panic buying.
- OPEC countries wrest pricing fully from Western multinationals in first "Oil Shock" and prices soar from around \$2.50 a barrel in January 1973 to \$11.50 by 1974.

Pipeline Development: The Caspian Basin

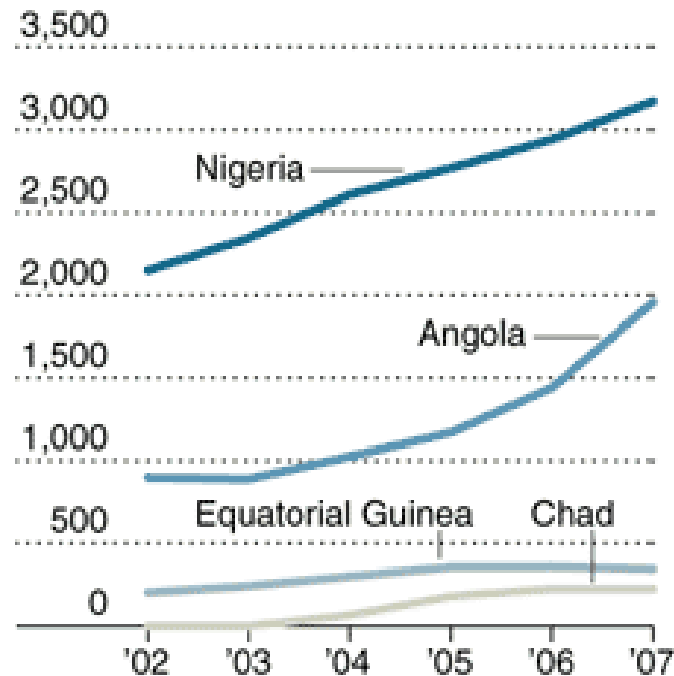


- Push for greater energy security; reduced dependence on Middle Eastern oil and OPEC
- Russia, a non-OPEC nation, attempting to garner foreign investment
 - Massive devaluation of the ruble, IMF loans; sell resources to garner foreign currency
- Major exploration efforts by US and European petroleum companies after 1989 collapse of communism
 - Potential for conflict with break-away republics: self-determination, economic development and emerging nations

Oil in Africa

Increasing Oil Production in Africa

Oil production forecasts for selected sub-Saharan African countries, in thousands of barrels a day.

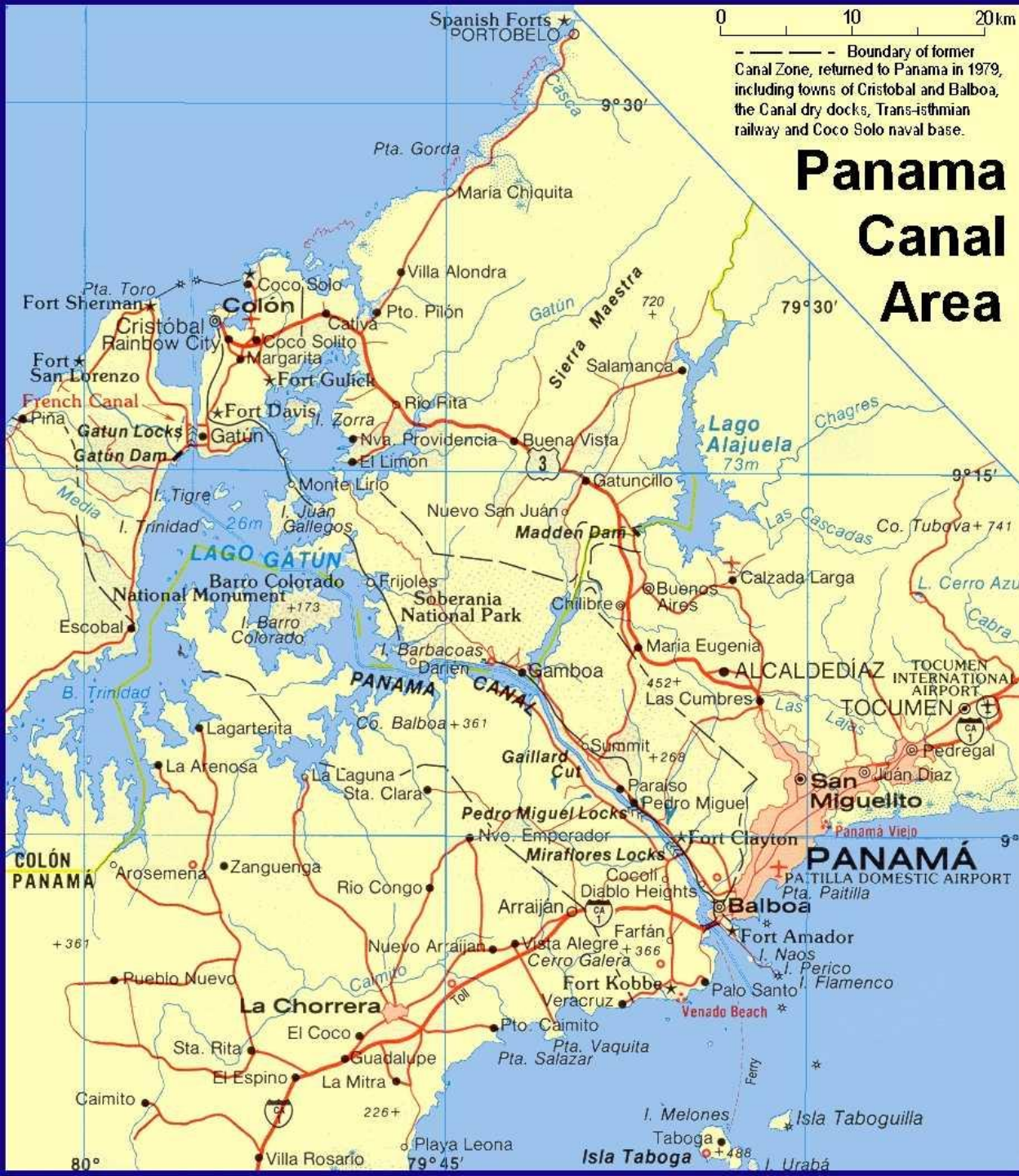


Source: Petroleum Finance Company

Pipeline Development: SE Asia



- Economic development of impoverished nations
- Social, environmental, and cultural change: 'modernization' and resistance to it e.g. Kra isthmus, Thailand



--- Boundary of former Canal Zone, returned to Panama in 1979, including towns of Cristobal and Balboa, the Canal dry docks, Trans-isthmian railway and Coco Solo naval base.

Panama Canal Area

- **Panama Canal**
- constructed by USA after initial failed French attempt
- 1903 – USA supports Panama’s separation from Colombia; gains control over strip bordering canal
- “Panama Canal Zone”
- 31 Dec 1999- sovereignty over Canal Zone given to Panama

Area/Size

De Blij

➤ Very Small

- ✓ Less than 10000 Square Kilometer

➤ Small

- ✓ 10000-60000 Square Kilometer

➤ Medium

- ✓ 60000-140000 Square Kilometer

➤ Large

- ✓ 140000-1000000 Square Kilometer

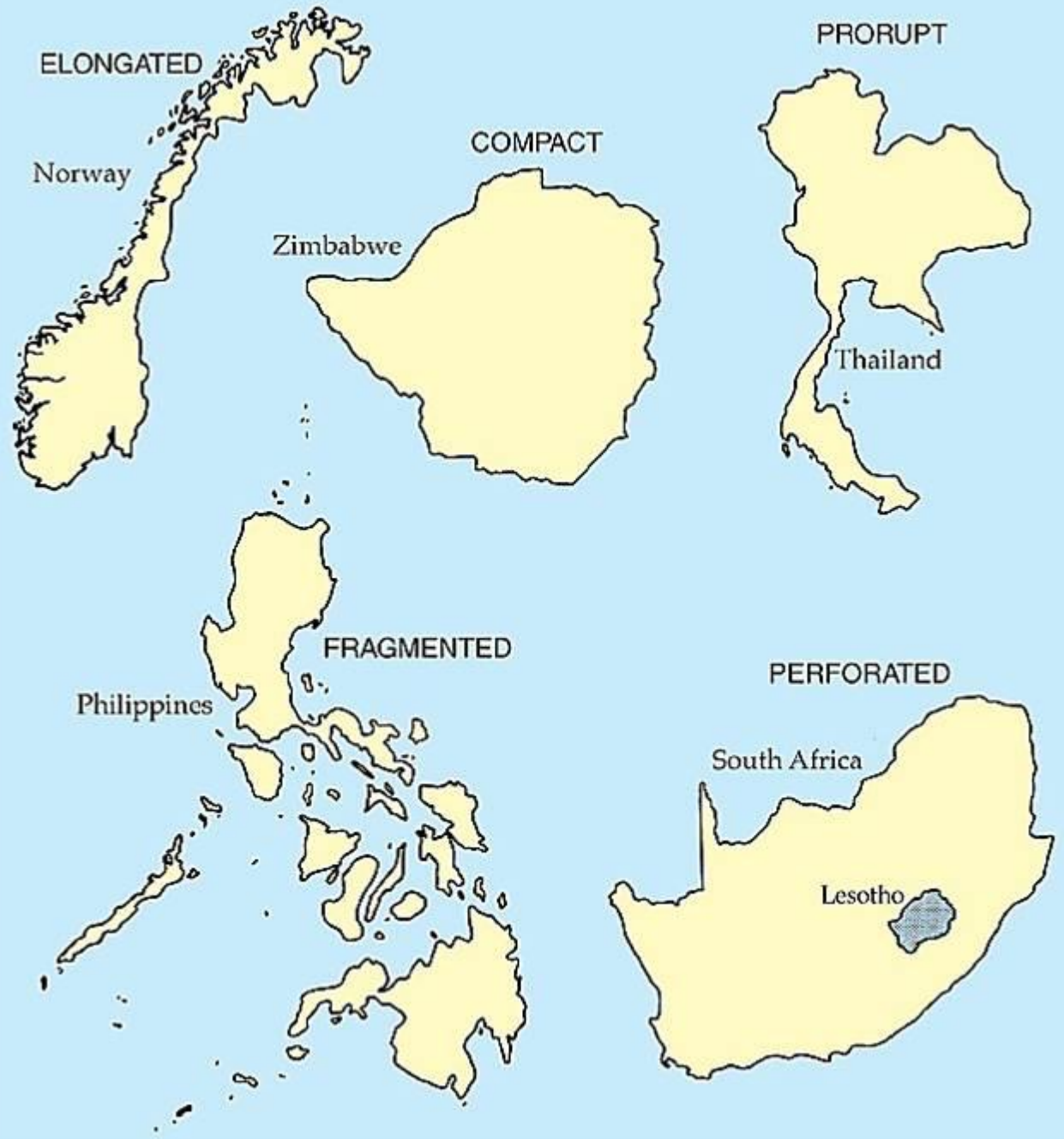
➤ Very Large

- ✓ More than 1000000 Square Kilometer

Shape

- Compact
- Non-Compact
- ✓ Elongated or Attenuated
- ✓ Prorupt
- ✓ Fragmented
- ✓ Perforated

Shapes of States



Compact





UGANDA

KENYA

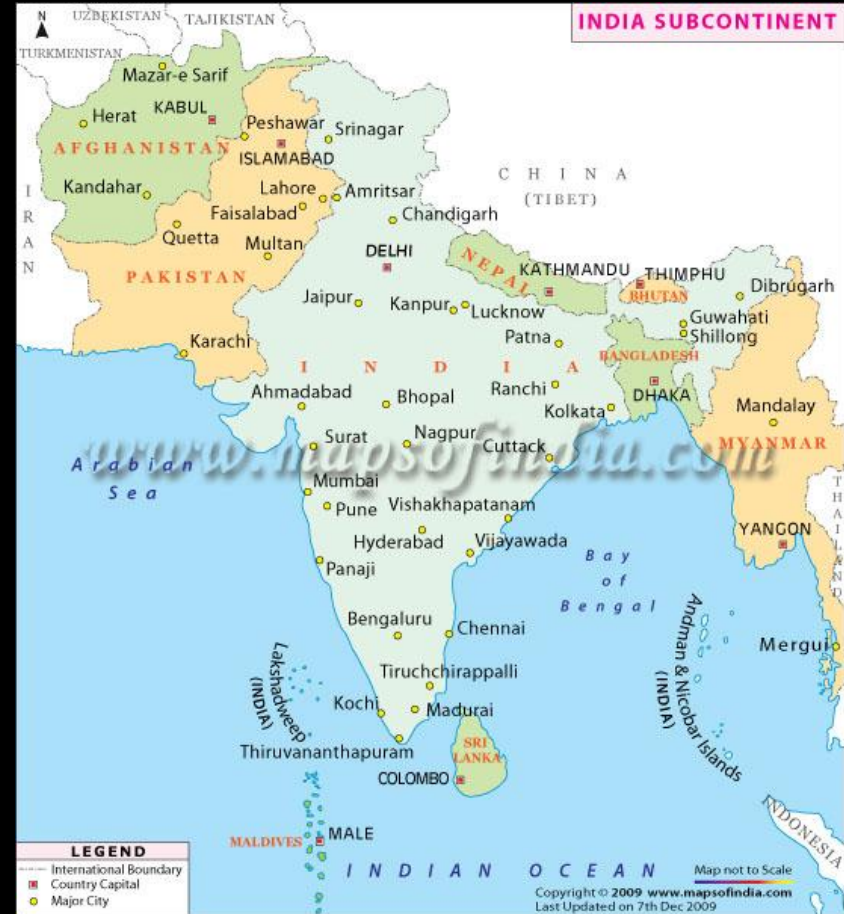
RWANDA

BURUNDI

Compact States

Lake
Victoria

Non-Compact

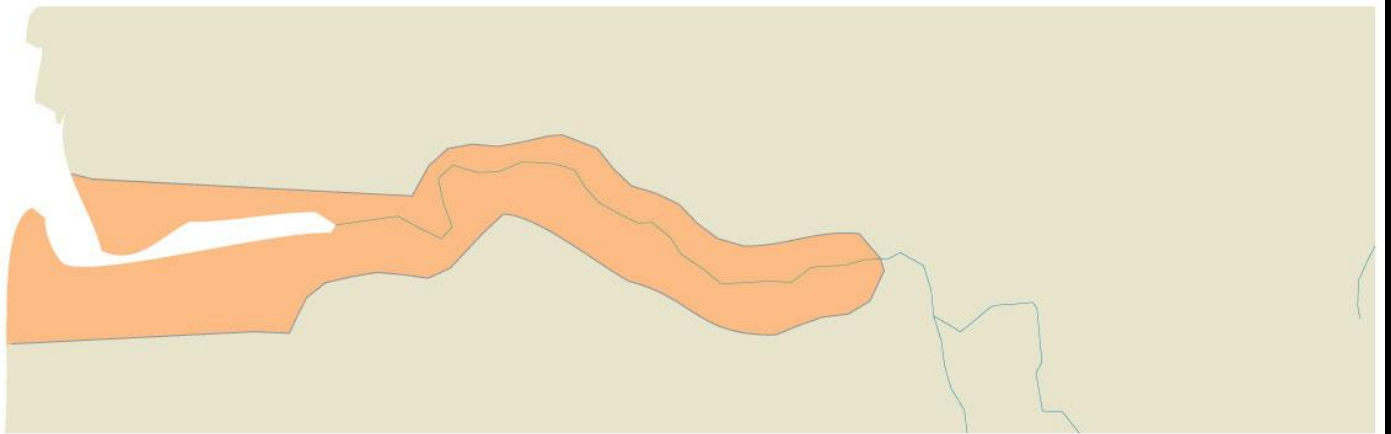


Elongated



An Elongated State

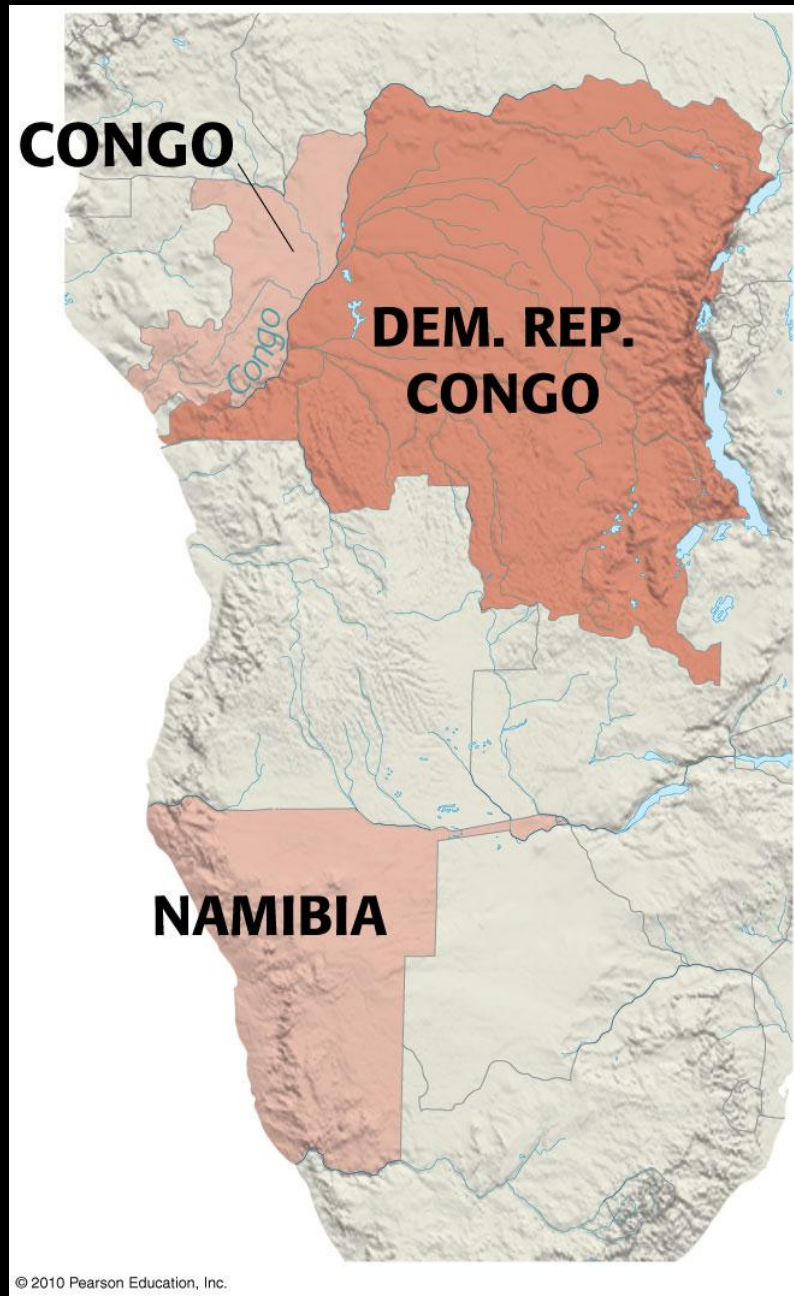
GAMBIA



Prorupt



Prorupted States



Fragmented



Fragmented State



Perforated





Lesotho

Lesotho officially the **Kingdom of Lesotho**, is a landlocked country and enclave—entirely surrounded by the Republic of South Africa. It is just over 30,000 km² (11,583 sq mi) in size with a population of approximately 2,067,000. Its capital and largest city is Maseru. Lesotho is the southernmost landlocked country in the world. It is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. The name "Lesotho" translates roughly into "the land of the people who speak Sesotho". About 40% of the population live below the international poverty line of US\$1.25 a day.

Katse-Dam-Lesotho



Katse-Dam-Lesotho



Makhaleng-Lesotho



Political Zones on the Oceans

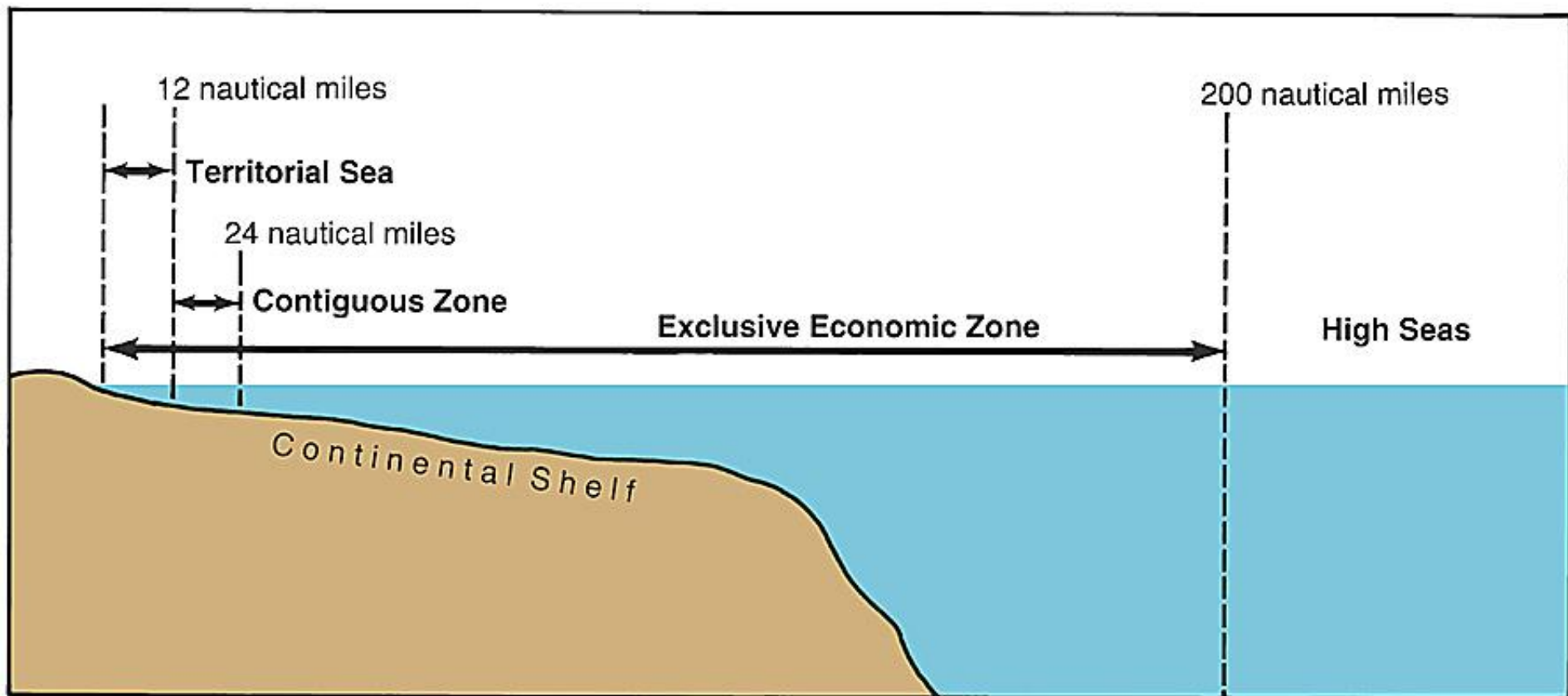
Base on Controls:

- ✓ Internal or In Land Waters
- ✓ Territorial Sea or Territorial Waters
- ✓ Contiguous Zone
- ✓ Zone of Diffusion or Exclusive Economic Zone
- ✓ High Seas

UN Convention on the International Law of the Sea

Zone	Distance from Coast	Provisions of Convention
Territorial Sea	12 nm (19 km)	sovereignty, including exclusive fishing rights; vessels have the right of innocent passage, though military and research vessels can be challenged
Contiguous Zone	Up to 24 nm (38 km)	coastal states can enforce customs, immigration, sanitation laws and have the right of hot pursuit out of its territorial waters
Exclusive Economic Zone	Up to 200 nm (370 km); or the continental shelf to 350 nm (560 km)	rights to explore, exploit, conserve, and manage the natural resources of the seabed and waters; traditional freedoms of the high seas are to be maintained
High Seas	beyond EEZ	freedoms include the right to sail ships, fish, fly over, lay submarine cables and pipelines; mineral resources are declared the common heritage of humankind to be managed for the benefit of all the peoples of the earth

Territorial Claims



Delimitation of Territorial Waters

- Problems for Delimitation of Base line
- Problems for Delimitation of Boundary line

Methods for Delimitation of Boundary Line

- ✓ The Replica Method
- ✓ The Conventional Baseline Method
- ✓ The Envelope Method

Environmental Features of State

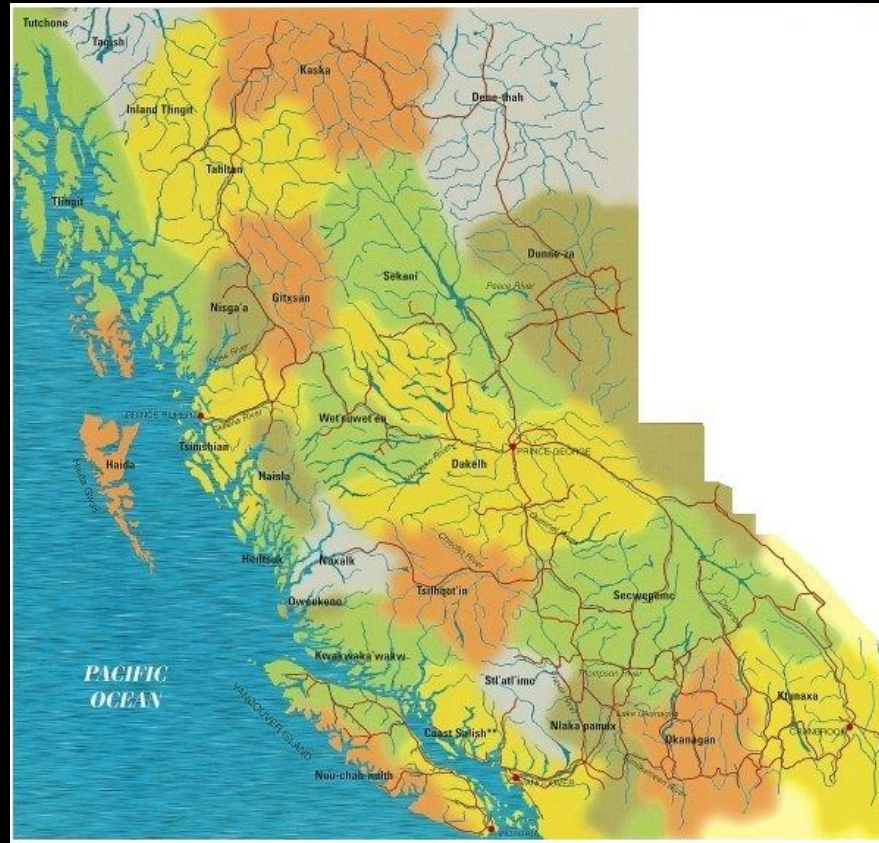
Environmental Features of State

- ✓ Physiography
- ✓ Natural Resources
- ✓ Arable Land
- ✓ Food & Agriculture Resources
- ✓ Mineral Resources
- ✓ Fuel Resources
- ✓ Iron ore & Ferrous Resources
- ✓ Transport & Trade
- ✓ Manufacturing Industries

Population

- ✓ Population Size
- ✓ Population Distribution & Density

Nation



- Geographers' definition: community of people with common ancestry, culture and territory
- Does not imply an independent political unit
- e.g. Quebec; Acadians in Eastern Canada; "First Nations" throughout Canada

Sub-Nations

- The term sub-nations is used here for national groups which constitute individually only a small minority within a state, such as the German, Spanish, Finnish speaking groups within France

Nation-States

- A country whose population possesses a substantial degree of cultural homogeneity and unity.
- State whose territory coincides with the area occupied by a single nation
- E.g. Iceland – all residents of the state are members of a single Icelandic nation
- vs. Canada – several different nations within the boundaries of the Canadian state

Nation-States

- Nation States

- ✓ Germany

- One Nation Dominating States

- ✓ Rumania

- Two-Nation Mutual States

- ✓ Belgium

- Multi-National States

- ✓ Spain

Irredentism

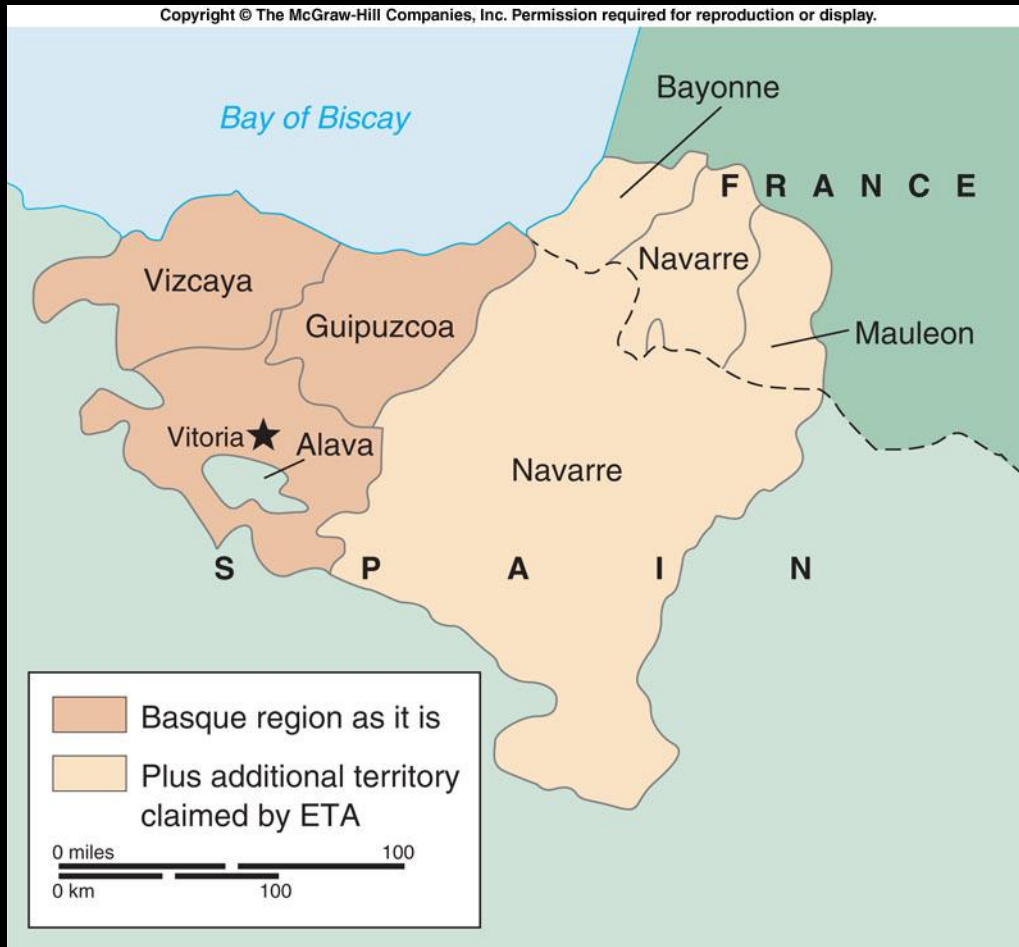
Irredentism (from Italian *irredento*, "unredeemed") is any position advocating annexation of territories administered by another state on the grounds of common ethnicity or prior historical possession, actual or alleged. Some of these movements are also called pan-nationalist movements.

Irredentism

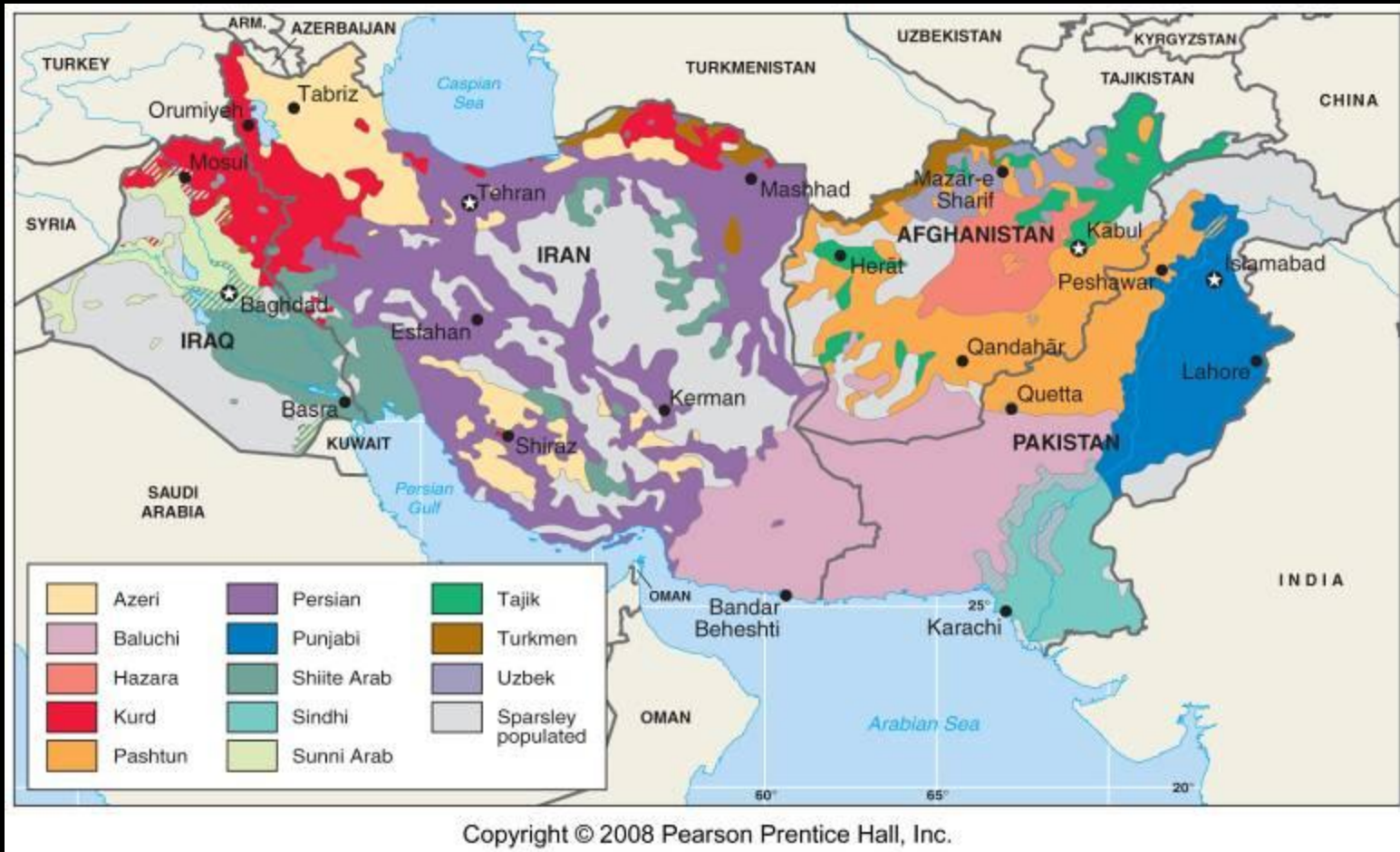
- **Irredentism** is any position advocating annexation of territories administered by another state on the grounds of common ethnicity or prior historical possession, actual or alleged.
- Some of these movements are also called **pan movements**.
- It is a feature of identity politics and cultural and political geography.
- Since most borders have been moved and redrawn at one point, a great many countries could theoretically present irredentist claims to their neighbors.

Irredentism

- ethnic groups (nations) occupying territory, but not belonging to a single state
- Basques in Spain and France – there is no Basque state
- Basque nationalist organizations want autonomy or independence for a Basque state



Ethnic Groups in Southwest Asia



Ethnic boundaries do not match country boundaries, especially in Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. The mismatch has affected many of the conflicts in the area.

The Kurdish Nation

25-40 million people, depending on how it is defined

Area $\geq 190,000 \text{ km}^2$



- Opposition to Ottoman Empire in WW 1
- promised independence by UK & France (1920); but Turkey established control. acknowledged 1923
- Boundaries for political, not ethnographic reasons
- Kurds not recognized as a nation by Turkey, Iraq, Iran
- Kurds supported USA invasion of Iraq 2003

Area claimed by Kurdish nationalist groups;
Kurdistan nationalist flag

Integration

National Integration is a very broad statement. To achieve national integration, the country has to pool resources, human, cultural, religious, scientific, natural, education... etc to achieve oneness in all spheres of life of the citizens of the country so that the progress can be achieved. With the progress, the citizens can enjoy fruits of prosperity and happiness, living in harmony irrespective of the cast, creed, language, religion and cultural leanings professed by each one of them as individuals.

Integration



Integration



Integration



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Integration



Socio-Economic Features

- ✓ Dependency Ratio
- ✓ Per capita Income
- ✓ Literacy

References

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- ✓ **Dwivedi, R.L: 1993, Fundamentals of Political Geography**
- ✓ **Pounds, N.J.G: 1972, Political Geography**
- ✓ **Husain, Majid: 1994, Political Geography**
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Thank You