



South West Asian Geopolitics: **Recent Developments and** **Implications for India**

A Presentation by
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Significance of SW Asia

- 16 States at Euro-Asia Cross-Roads
- Geo-Strategic Importance and Linkages
- Economic Significance as Oil Hub & Market
- Origin of 3 Semitic Religions - Their Interface
- History of Arab, Persian and Ottoman Empires
- Definitional Role in Oil Economy
- Israel – Palestine Issue
- Religious and Sectarian Friction
- Arab Spring and Its Aftermath

SW Asia: Basic Data

Country	Area Sq Kms	Population Mn	GDP \$Bn	Politics
Afghanistan	653,000	35.3	19.5	Republic
Bahrain	765.0	01.5	32.2	Kingdom
Iran	1,648,000	81.2	419.0	Republic
Iraq	437,000	38.3	171.5	Republic
Israel	22,000	8.3	317.7	Republic
Jordan	89,300	9.7	38.7	Kingdom
Kuwait	17,800	4.1	110.9	Emirate
Lebanon	10,450	6.1	49.6	Republic
Oman	309,500	4.6	66.3	Sultanate
Palestine	8,220	4.9	12.0	Republic
Qatar	11,590	2.6	152.5	Emirate
Saudi Arabia	2,150,000	32.9	646.4	Kingdom
Syria	185,200	18.3	60.0 (?)	Republic
Turkey	783,000	80.7	863.7	Republic
UAE	83,600	9.4	348.7	Republic
Yemen	528,000	28.3	27.3	Republic

Flashpoint 1: Afghanistan-US-Pakistan

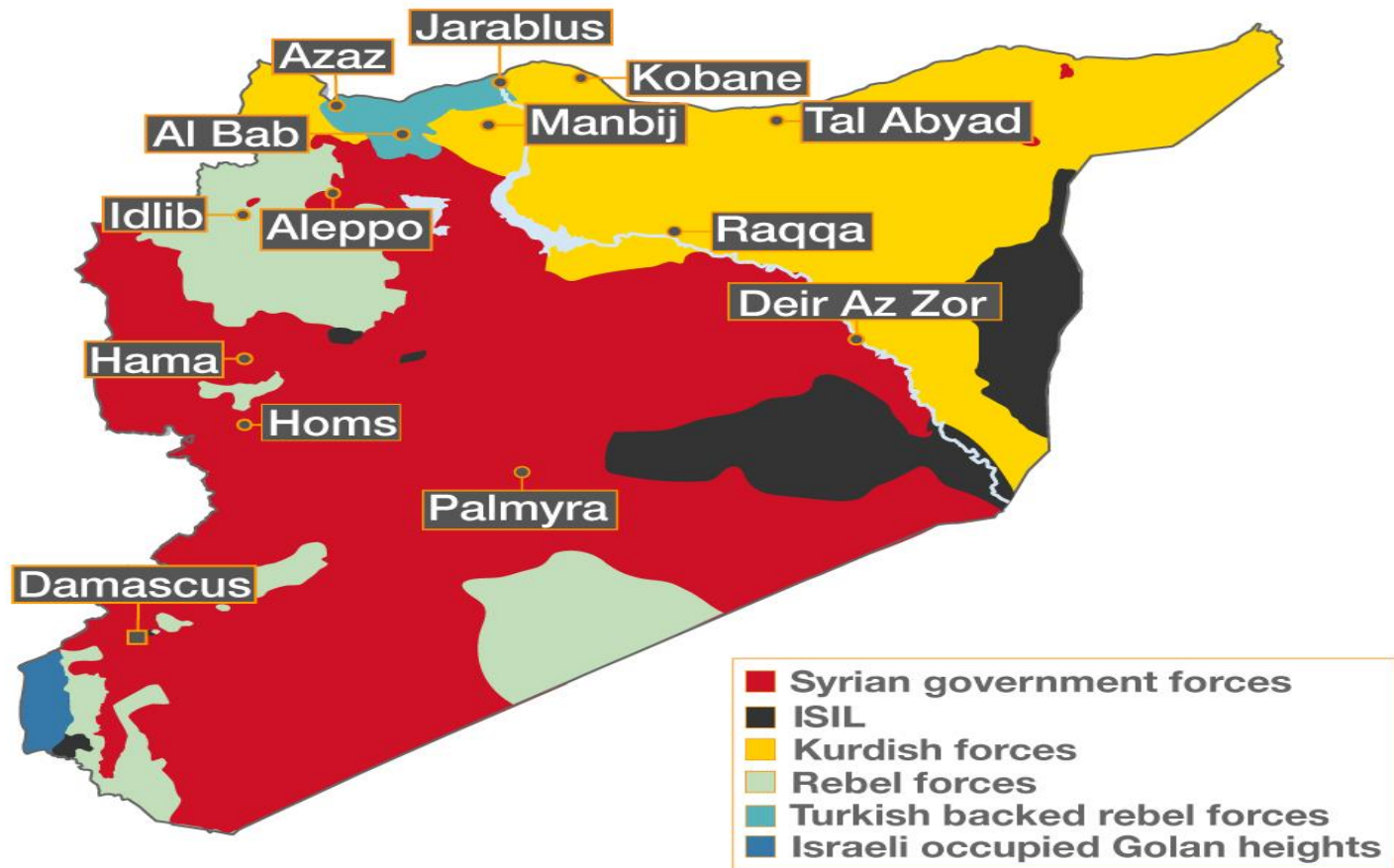


Flashpoint 2: Iraq



Flashpoint 3: Syria

Syria: Who controls what?



Source: LiveUAMap, Southfront
Updated: 29 November 2017

Flashpoint 4: Yemen



Flashpoint 5: The Gulf



Topic 1: Arab Spring

- Chronology since December 2010
- Countries Affected
- Causes and Contributory Factors
- Foreign Interventions
- Outcome and Impact
- Analysis
- Politico-Religious Stalemate forever?

Topic 2: Hydrocarbons

- Location of over half of Global Reserves
- Regional Dependence on Hydrocarbons
- Cyclic Nature of Global Oil Economy
- Role of OPEC & Regional Interlinkages
- New Factors: Shale, Renewables, Output Curbs by Producers, Energy Efficiency, Environment
- Moves towards Diversification and Belt-tightening
- Systemic Change in Hydrocarbons Economy

Topic 3: Israel-Palestine Issue

- Ancient History to Balfour Declaration and Syke-Picot Agreement;
- Creation of Israel in 1948
- 1967 War and UNSC Resolutions 242 & 338
- Oslo Accords for Two State Solution
- Jerusalem – Al-Quds Issue: Recent Moves
- Indian Position

India's Ties with SW Asia

- Historic Context
- Current Multifaceted Picture
- Economic Interaction: Trade & Investments
- Oil Inter-Dependence
- P2P Ties: 7 Mn Indians in GCC States Alone
- Religious & Cultural Links

Look at SW Asia's Future

- Winding Down of Conflicts, Regional Rivalries & Sectarian Tensions? – Or, More of the Same?
- Post-Conflict Reconstruction
- Evolution of New Socio-Political Order
- Economic Diversification from Oil
- Demographic Surge: Youth, Women & Middle Class
- Foreign Influences - and Impact Abroad.



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