1919
Comintern formed by Lenin

1921
Young Kikuyu Association protests British taxes in Africa

1927
Chiang Kai-shek organizes the Shanghai Massacre

1929
Great Depression begins

1919
League of Nations formed
1933
Franklin D. Roosevelt announces the Good Neighbor policy

1939
British limit number of Jewish immigrants to Palestine

1939
World War II begins
Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman Empire, which had been steadily declining since the late 1700s, finally ended after World War I.
Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire (cont.)

- The Ottoman Empire began to decline in the 1800s, with Greece winning its independence.

- Many ethnic Turks wanted a Turkish state that would encompass all people of Turkish nationality. A group called Young Turks wanted to depose Abdülhamīd II.
Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire

- With the help of T.E. Lawrence and Great Britain, Arabia achieved its independence from Ottoman rule.

- When the Christian Armenians began pushing for independence, the Ottoman government responded by killing Armenian men and expelling women and children from the empire.
Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire (cont.)

- The Ottoman Turks led a policy of **ethnic cleansing**, or **genocide**, against the Christian Armenians, killing an estimated 1 million people.

- The Ottoman Empire collapsed toward the end of World War I. Great Britain and France made plans to divide the Ottoman territories in the Middle East.
Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire (cont.)

- Turkey remained under Ottoman control until Mustafa Kemal organized an elected government and a new Republic of Turkey.
Turkey’s president Kemal changed the political system and the Turkish culture to create a modern state, while government and economic reforms changed Persia into the modern country of Iran.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

- President Kemal, known as Atatürk, tried to modernize Turkey and implemented a democratic system.
- Atatürk eliminated many Arab elements from Turkish culture in exchange for more Western customs.

  - The Turkish language was now written in the Roman alphabet.
  - Citizens had to adopt last names.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

– The caliphate was abolished as Turkish society became more secular.

– Muslim men were forbidden to wear the fez and Muslim women were forbidden to wear the veil.

– All citizens were given the right to convert to any religion.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

- Persian nationalists opposed to a foreign presence in Persia led a revolt and seized control of Tehran.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

• In 1925 Reza Khan, leader of the nationalists, declared himself shah and became known as **Reza Shah Pahlavi**.

• Reza Shah Pahlavi followed Atatürk’s example and introduced reforms to modernize the government, military, and economic system, but he did not attempt to destroy the Islamic religion.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

• In 1935 Persia became the modern state of **Iran**.

• After the Arabs broke free from Ottoman control, a single Arab nation was not created. Instead, Great Britain and France divided the Ottoman Empire and ruled its parts as mandates.
The Europeans determined the nations’ borders and divided the peoples. The people did not have a strong identification with their designated country, and a sense of Arab nationalism remained.

Reform leader Ibn Sa‘ūd united Arabs in the northern part of the Arabian Peninsula and established the kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1932.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

- Western oil companies made Saudi Arabia wealthy after the Standard Oil Company struck oil on the Persian Gulf.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

• Nationalism caused tensions between Jews and Muslim Arabs in Palestine.

• Palestine was home to the Jews in antiquity until they were forced into exile in the first century A.D. Muslim Arabs replaced the Jews and made up 80% of the region’s population.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

• A Zionist movement encouraged Jews to return to Palestine to establish a Jewish state.

• During World War I, Great Britain issued the Balfour Declaration, which supported a Jewish homeland in Palestine, but it also added that this goal should not undermine the rights of the non-Jewish peoples living there.
In 1933 Hitler’s policies led many Jews to seek refuge in Palestine, which resulted in violence between Jewish and Muslim inhabitants.
Middle East Changes (cont.)

• In 1939 the British tried to end the violence by declaring that only 75,000 Jewish people would be allowed to immigrate to Palestine over the next five years. This resulted in deeper tensions and more bloodshed.
THE END