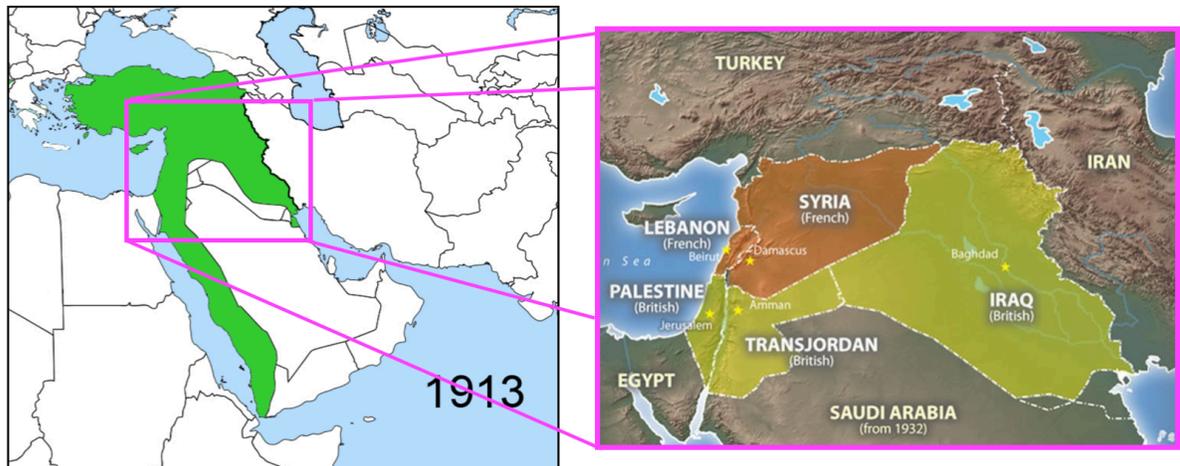


## H. The World Wars and the Disintegration of Triumphal Islam

1. The *World Wars* caused the final disintegration of Islamic culture at the hands of Europe's great powers.
2. Desperate to regain territory lost to Britain, France, and Russia, who were all allies on the same side in World War I (1914-19), the Ottoman Turks allied with Germany which had never attacked the Middle East, and which they hoped would help them defeat their main enemies.
3. Germany stopped fighting when the United States entered the war, and the Ottoman Empire was defeated by Britain and France, who cut it up into the separate countries of: Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Transjordan (later simply "Jordan"), Lebanon, and (eventually) Israel.



The modern disintegrated state of the Islamic world is mainly caused by the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in World War I, when France and Britain carved up the empire and made a number of new countries in its place.

4. The final humiliation for the Muslims of the Middle East came in **1948** when British-controlled Palestine, a region that had been part of the Ottoman Empire (see map above) was abandoned by Britain. Jewish settlers had fled the destruction of the world wars and the horrible racist attack on them by Nazi Germany known as the Holocaust, and they fought desperately to reclaim the land where the ancient kingdom of Israel had been.
5. Although the region of Palestine had been part of the Islamic Ottoman empire for centuries, and armies from the new countries of Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, and even Iraq and Saudi Arabia all tried to stop it from being created, they failed. This became known as the “Nakba” (catastrophe) to the local Muslims.
6. The outcome of this long period of Europe's rising power and the inability of the Islamic world to grasp or to match it was the complete political disintegration of the Islamic world. In this new situation not only did many smaller countries exist where

there previously had been empires, but most of these new countries were not *nations*, where the people had a tradition of self-rule and a sense of cultural cohesion. They were just areas on the map whose borders had been artificially drawn by European rulers.

7. It was this politically disintegrated Islamic culture that would have to endure the controlling presence of the United States as the world police power following World War II, because of America wanted to stope the spread of communism.
8. Here is the basic summary of the story: Muhammad started *Triumphal Islam* with his conquest of Arabia **c.622-32** which lasted until the Euro-Ottoman Wars of **1863-99**. Those wars signaled the beginning of the period of the *European Ascendancy*, which led to the complete breakup of the Ottoman Empire in World War I (**1914-19**), and rise of the modern State of Israel in **1948**, because the Islamic world was disintegrated and powerless to stop it. Modern Islamic culture is struggling to chose between cosmopolitanism and the now dominant trend of *Islamism* since **1979**, which wants to overcome America's power and regain a belief in the ultimate triumph of Islamic belief over all other cultures.

