1. Prior to WWI…
   1. Allies have interests in the Middle East
   2. Relations with Arabs and Zionists
   3. Brits already nearing the Middle East
      1. Protectorate over Egypt in 1914; interested in the Suez Canal as an easy route to India
      2. Spheres of influence in Persia
   4. The Ottoman Empire had relations with Germany, thus leading to its involvement with the Central Powers in the war
2. Britain’s “indirect strategy”
   1. Focused on OME after European stalemate
   2. Secret conferences between the allies were held to divide the spoils of the Empire, even before the war had even ended
      1. Russians → Constantinople
      2. Italians → Anatolia (this is why they joined with the allies!)
   3. Nationalism spreads to the Mid East
      1. Arabs vs. Turks in OME
      2. Arab political and cultural groups proclaimed
   4. Arabs wanted a nation state; the Brits used this
      1. Arabs were essentially “seduced” into revolting to divert the OME
   5. Sherif Hussein of Hijaz wanted the caliphate and political power over an Arab national state
      1. Hussein-McMahon correspondence delineates a somewhat British/Arab alliance
         1. However, it was ambiguous af
      2. Worked with Faizal
3. French ambitions in the Levant
   1. Sykes (British) and Picot (French) created their own map of postwar Mid East to satisfy each power
   2. “Spheres of influence” were to later take the form of mandates
   3. Iraq → Brits, Syria → French, Palestine was international (except for Haifa)
      1. Brits used Iraq for oil and Haifa to transport this oil
   4. “Imperial State of Mind”
4. The Arab Revolt
   1. Hussein & Faizal attack the Ottoman troops
      1. This was a military diversion!
   2. Arabs head north, while French launch a campaign from the south
   3. T. E. Lawrence
5. The Jewry
   1. David Lloyd George becomes British prime minister; he wants the US to involve itself on the allied side
      1. What better way to tempt the US than Jews?
   2. Jews were close to the Germans
      1. For example, this is evident in the International Zionist Association’s headquarters being located in Berlin
      2. Hitler be like: this won’t last for long
   3. Anti-Semitism was more prominent in Eastern Europe by the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th
      1. Pogroms led to emigration to Palestine
   4. Herzl aspired for a Zionist state → “Jews are safe nowhere!”
   5. There were some indigenous Jewish Palestinians
      1. Less than 8% of the population tho
6. Zionist State in Palestine
   1. The Balfour Declaration establishes an agreement between the Brits/Jews in Oct. 1917
      1. They expected Arab outrage; attempted to word this letter to prevent so
      2. Highlights the desperation of the allies for support!
   2. Although it is an Arab state, the Jews proclaimed Palestine a Jewish state
   3. While all these negotiations were going on, the Sykes-Picot agreement was the only actual official treaty signed regarding the Mid East in WWI
   4. Meanwhile, the Bolsheviks take power in Russia
      1. They publish all governmental records, including secret treaties dividing up the Mid East
      2. This makes the Arabs mad
   5. Allied notables enter the Mid East, but members of the Arab Revolt are nowhere to be found
      1. The British, somewhat successfully, are able to cover themselves
   6. International Zionist Commission travels to establish a Jewish university in Palestine and leaves everyone really confused
   7. Britain never truly legitimized what it was doing whoops
   8. Allanby → Damascus in 1918
      1. Faizal warned of limited rule of Syria after the war; he ignored this tho!
7. End of the War
   1. OME defeated 11 days before the other powers on Halloween 1918
   2. Paris Peace Conference = allied grab-n-go of territory
      1. Americans tried to espouse self-determination
      2. Faizal also appeared and pleaded for the Arab cause
      3. Balfour was still hyping Zionism
   3. League of Nations created
      1. Mandate System → Brits/French essentially had imperial rule over Mid East territories
   4. Syrian National Congress declares Faizal the king of Syria
      1. France deposes of him and he flees to Palestine
   5. Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, Iraq, and Palestine all become mandates
      1. European powers exploit their international resources
   6. Iraqis reject British rule, so they impose Faizal upon the throne in attempts to placate them
   7. Hashemites → Hijaz when Abdullah takes the throne of Transjordan
   8. Versailles treated included Palestine becoming a Zionist state
      1. New political and financial support was thus given to the Zionists
   9. In the interwar years, the Nazis rose to power, which increased Jewish emigration
      1. Arabs in Palestine were mad, alongside the Jews in Palestine
      2. They both got really buckwild and violent
      3. White Papers limited Jewish immigration