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The background of the slide is the flag of Lebanon, featuring three horizontal stripes of red, white, and red. A large, stylized green silhouette of a cedar tree is centered on the white stripe. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white horizontal band.

**Outside Actors Impact on Lebanon: A Teaching Unit
for Community Colleges
By: Dedric Todd Lee, Jefferson College**

The Purpose of the Teaching Unit

- Serve as a framework for community college faculty covering outside actors in the affairs of Lebanon.
- Introduce students to the complexity of Lebanese politics and society.
- Demonstrate the impact of these outside actors in Lebanon.



Activities of the Unit

- Videos with questions: See Word document
- Internet research activities: on Word doc
- PowerPoint lecture notes
- Recommended Journal Articles for Students in PowerPoint slides.



Foreign Actors in Lebanon in the last 100 years

- France
- Syria
- Iran
- United States
- Israel
- Palestinian Refugees
- United Kingdom



Starting Point: World War I

- Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1916
- Divided the territories of the Ottoman Empire into French and British Zones.
- Lebanon was part of the French Zone
- Originally part of Syria
- Traboulsi, Fawaaz. History of Modern Lebanon. Ann Arbor, MI: Pluto Books, 2007. p. 75-76



Lebanese Independence in 1936

- France grants independence but maintains an army force their influence.
- French rule collapses for good when taken over by Nazi Germany.
- After WWII, The U.S. said no to French control and recognized Lebanon in Sept, 1945.
- Traboulsi, pgs. 101 &104



May 1948: Nakba- The Catastrophe

- Hundred of thousands of Palestinians fled or were removed by Israeli militias. The Palestinians fled to neighboring Jordan, Syria & Lebanon.*
 - This is still an issue in the Middle East. Palestinians had occupied the area for centuries.
 - Is there a homeland for Palestinians? Still not solved
 - Creation of the state of Israel in Palestinian territory.
-
- *Ibish, Hussein. *A Catastrophe that Defines the Palestinian Identity*. The Atlantic. May 18, 2018
 - <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2018/05/the-meaning-of-nakba-israel-palestine-1948-gaza/560294/>



Numbers: Palestinian Refugees when they lost their homeland.

- 79% of Palestine's land was lost to Israel
- 720,000 of 1.3 million Palestinians were refugees in 1949.
- This was not a welcomed takeover of Palestinian land.
- Khalidi, Rashid. *The Hundred Years Wars' on Palestine*. New York: Metropolitan Books. 2020 Pg. 58



Palestinians in Lebanon: 2019

- Over 470,000 refugees are registered with UNRWA in Lebanon. Lebanon has a population near 7 million.
 - Conditions in the camps are dire and characterized by overcrowding, poor housing conditions, unemployment, poverty and lack of access to justice.
- United Nations Relief and Work Agency. "Where We Work." <https://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/lebanon> accessed on 8-20-2020



Palestinians in Lebanon: 2019

- Palestinians in Lebanon do not enjoy several important rights; for example, they cannot work in as many as 39 professions and cannot own property (real estate).
- Palestinians are not formal citizens of Lebanon. Refugees are unable to claim the same rights as other foreigners living and working in Lebanon.
- United Nations Relief and Work Agency. "Where We Work."
<https://www.unrwa.org/where-we-work/lebanon> accessed on 8-20-2020



US Involvement in Lebanon

- Eisenhower Doctrine: America has vital interests in the Middle East and would defend them by force if necessary.
 - Ridel, Bruce. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2019/10/29/beirut-1958-americas-origin-story-in-the-middle-east/> downloaded on 8-18-20
- 1958: Operation Blue bat. Lebanon on brink of a civil war. US landed 15K Marines near Beirut. Had 40K additional troops at sea. Led to rule of Fuad Shihab as President of Lebanon.
 - Traboulsi, Fawaaz. History of Modern Lebanon. Ann Arbor, MI: Pluto Books, 2007. p. 136



Suggested: Article for Students

- Your College's Librarians can help you find this.
- Authors: Martha Wenger and Julie Denney
- Title: "Lebanon's 15 Year War 1975-1990."
- *Middle East Report* Jan-Feb 1990 No. 162 pp.23-25
- www.jstor.com/stable/3013281 - This article covers the issues and actors involved in the Lebanese Civil War.



More US involvement in Lebanon

- September 82: President Elect Gemayel was assassinated. Israel invades Lebanon to force Palestinian fighters out of Lebanon. The people of Lebanon were divided.
- US part of a multinational force to keep peace
- No Arab state would take Palestinian fighters.
- US became more involved with “Aggressive Self Defense”



US involvement continued

- Fighting between Lebanese groups intensified. Some for Israel, some against Israel.
- US wanted foreign fighters out of Lebanon.
- Syria, Israel and Palestinians all fighting in Lebanon.
- Oct 1983: US and French troop barracks were bombed by a group of fighters backed by Iran.
- 241 American Service members died. <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1981-1988/lebanon>



Iranian Influence in Lebanon

- Iran exerts influence on Lebanon through a organization named Hezbollah or the party of God.
- After the Israeli invasion in 1982, many Shia in Lebanon looked to Iran for assistance in a militant response to the invasion.

• BBC Profile. Lebanon's: Hezbollah Movement. 3-15-16. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-10814698> Accessed on July 9, 2020



Iranian Influence via Hezbollah

- At this point, I would suggest assigning the article:
- Anzani, Eitan. “The Hybrid Terrorist Organization: Hezbollah as a Case Study.” *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, 36:899-916, 2013. ISSN#1057-610X
Print.
- Questions on the article are on the next slide



Questions for Article on Hezbollah Case Study

- Hezbollah has evolved from a terrorist organization to one that is involved in politics, education, military and social welfare.
- What are the three legs of a hybrid terrorist organization?
- What was the “open letter”?



Questions for Article on Hezbollah Case Study

- What are the four techniques used by Hezbollah to provide services?
- Why did Hezbollah stop kidnapping foreigners in the early 1990's?
- What was Hezbollah's rationale for participating in Lebanese politics? Hint: Page 910



Hezbollah

- I would suggest watching the video:
- *Lebanon: Caught in Between.* 2006
- Films on Demand# 51929 52 minutes
- Film questions on the next slides.



Lebanon: Caught In Between Video Questions

- Why did so many Palestinians come to Lebanon in 1967?
- Which side of the conflict did the SLA side with?
- Who is the main financier of Hezbollah?
- Why did DeGaulle and Ali join Hezbollah?
- Why did Pierre and Maha side with the SLA?



Lebanon: Caught in Between Video Questions

- Why would former SLA members who lived in Israel return home to Lebanon?
- What were some of the problems faced by Ali, DeGaulle, Maha and Pierre after the war?
- What happened to DeGaulle after his release from prison?
- What is Hezbollah's role in southern Lebanon now?



Lebanon: Caught in Between Video Questions

- Describe some of the abuses that occurred at Khaim Prison?
- When did Israel leave southern Lebanon?
- Who filled the void after Israel left?
- What happened to many of the people who sided with the SLA and Israel after Israel left?



Hezbollah's current actions

- They have given support and weapons to the Assad regime in the Syrian civil war.
- Protect Shia villages in Syria
- Trained with Russian military to update military tactics.
- Daher, Joseph. "Hezbollah: Political Economy of Lebanon's Party of God." London: Pluto Press, 2016. pgs, 179, 180, 188.



Hezbollah as part of the Lebanese Government

- Hezbollah is learning the lesson that it is harder to govern than fighting.
- Hezbollah is having to work with the other parts of the government of Lebanon to combat the many problems faced by the county. I.e. Reliable Electricity, Functioning Economy and Competent Governing.
- Yee, Vivian. "For Lebanon's Shia a Dilemma: Stay Loyal to Hezbollah or Keep Protesting." *New York Times*, February 4, 2020.



Summary

- Lebanon has internal and external problems plaguing it. Corruption, government mismanagement and currency collapse are examples.
- The country recently had a massive explosion at a Beirut port which has added to the country's problems.



Thank you

- If you have comments, questions or suggestions please email me at dlee2@jeffco.edu.
- Dedric Todd Lee
- Jefferson College



Lebanon

CIA World Fact Book questions.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/le.html>

1. Where do most people live in Lebanon? Hint: Look for Population Distribution
2. What is the official language of Lebanon? Hint: Look for Languages
3. Christians make up around _____% of Lebanon's population.
4. What are the two largest sects of Muslims in Lebanon?
5. What is the economy of Lebanon?
6. How many Palestinian Refugees live in Lebanon?
7. How many Syrian refugees live in Lebanon?
8. What country provides a lot of financial support to the group Hezbollah?

Category	Lebanon	Israel	Notes
GDP per Capita			
Population			
Natural Resources			
Government Type			
Climate			
Military Service			
Electricity Production			

Videos for the Unit

Lebanon: Caught in Between. 2006 Films on Demand# 51929 52 minutes

In southern Lebanon, the wounds of 22 years of Israeli occupation are still fresh. Isolated from the rest of the country, the population was forced to choose between two rival militias: the South Lebanon Army (Israel's Lebanese allies) or the newly emerging Hezbollah. When Israel withdrew from southern Lebanon in 2000, its SLA supporters found themselves vilified as collaborators. This moving documentary tells the stories of Maha and Pierre, who had sided with the SLA, and DeGaulle and Ali, members of Hezbollah, providing insight into the political forces shaping Lebanon today. (Portions with English subtitles, 53 minutes)

Video Questions

1. Why did so many Palestinians come to Lebanon in 1967?
2. Which side of the conflict did the SLA side with?
3. Who is the main financier of Hezbollah?
4. Why did DeGaulle and Ali join Hezbollah?
5. Why did Pierre and Maha side with the SLA?
6. Describe some of the abuses that occurred at Khaim Prison?
7. When did Israel leave southern Lebanon?
8. Who filled the void after Israel left?
9. What happened to many of the people who sided with the SLA and Israel after Israel left?
10. Why would former SLA members who lived in Israel return home to Lebanon?
11. What were some of the problems faced by Ali, DeGaulle, Maha and Pierre after the war?
12. What happened to DeGaulle after his release from prison?
13. What is Hezbollah's role in southern Lebanon now?

The Living Martyr: Inside Hezbollah. 2000 Films on Demand#29377

Disclaimer: This video deals with the topic of suicide.

For militant followers of Islam, the highest honor is to be dubbed al-shahid al-hai—"the living martyr," one who has irrevocably committed himself to dying in a suicide attack against the organization's enemies. Why do boys and young men so readily embrace this ideal? And how do the mothers, sisters, and daughters feel about it and the honor that it confers upon them? Filled with exclusive interviews with Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance fighters and their families as well as chilling footage of suicide mission preparations, this program is a must-see documentary for anyone seeking to understand the political situation in the Middle East and beyond. (53 minutes).

Video Questions

1. What is the 3rd Holiest City in Islam?
2. What do Shia believe will happen when Jerusalem becomes controlled by Shia?
3. Why did Hezbollah start?
4. What does the Quran say about suicide?
5. What is the Ashura Holiday?
6. How does Hezbollah justify suicide?
7. How does Martyrdom benefit the family?
8. How does Hezbollah use media as Psychological Warfare?

There are also some videos from CBS 60 minutes- Alexandria Street Academic Videos

The New Beirut- 12-22-05

Hezbollah- 4-20-2003

Lebanese Newspaper in English

The Daily Star

<https://www.dailystar.com.lb/>