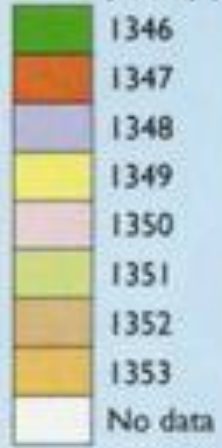
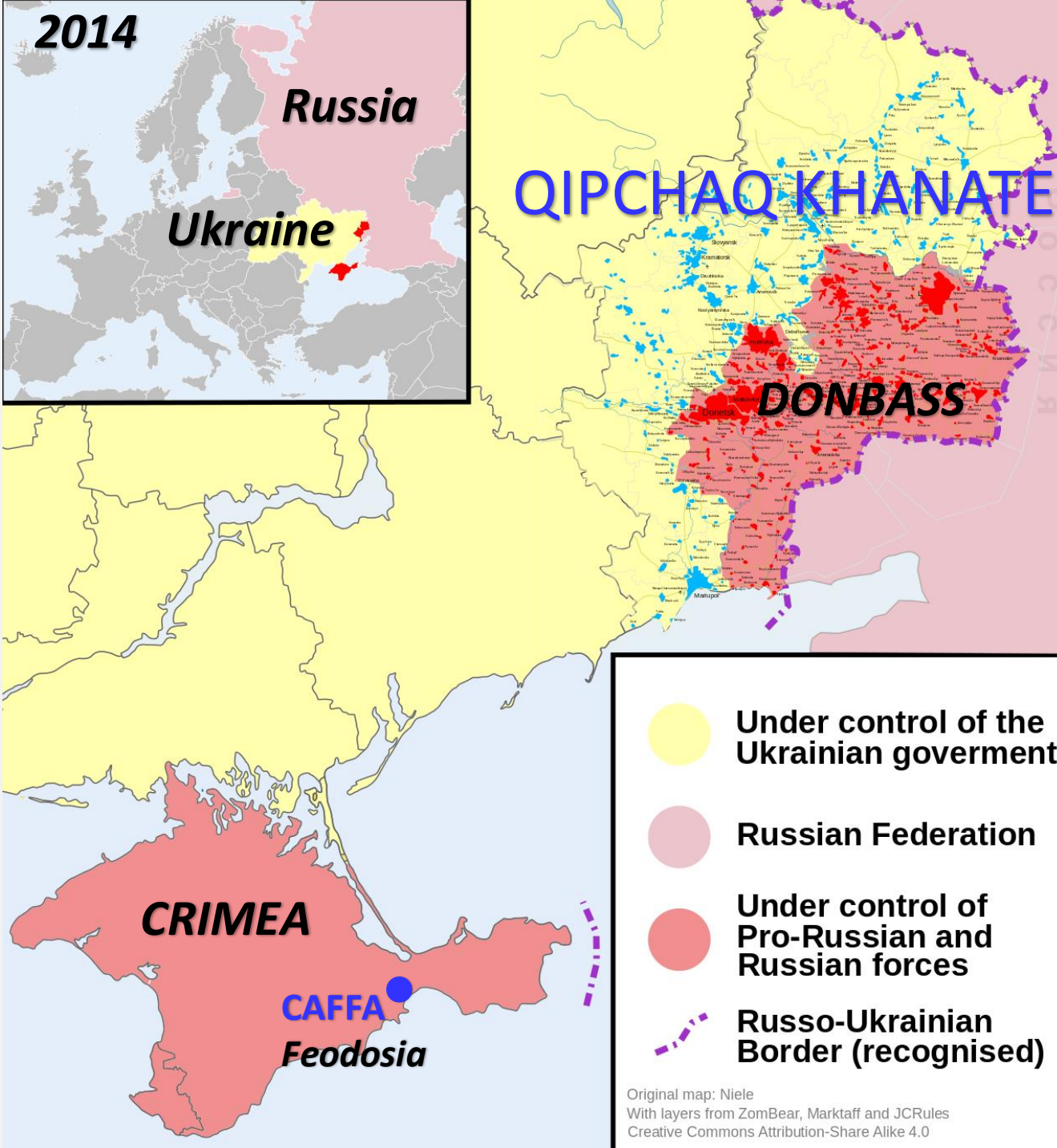


BUBONIC PLAGUE

--- Border between the Golden Horde and the Russian Principalities
The advance of the Black Death year by year





-  Under control of the Ukrainian government
-  Russian Federation
-  Under control of Pro-Russian and Russian forces
-  Russo-Ukrainian Border (recognised)

Original map: Niele
With layers from ZomBear, Marktaff and JCRules
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Tangier

Fez

Sijilmasa

Taghazza

Tunbuku

Iwalatan

Kaukau

AL-SUDAN

Dongola

MALI SULTANATE

MAMLUK EGYPT

BYZANTIUM

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Sahara

Hoggar Mountains

Strait of Gibraltar

Málaga

Granada

Algiers

Tunis

Cagliari

Genoa

Rome

Istanbul (Constantinople)

Ankara

Konya

Latakia

Tripoli

Beirut

Tyre

Acra

Tel Aviv

Gaza

Alexandria

Fuwa

Cairo

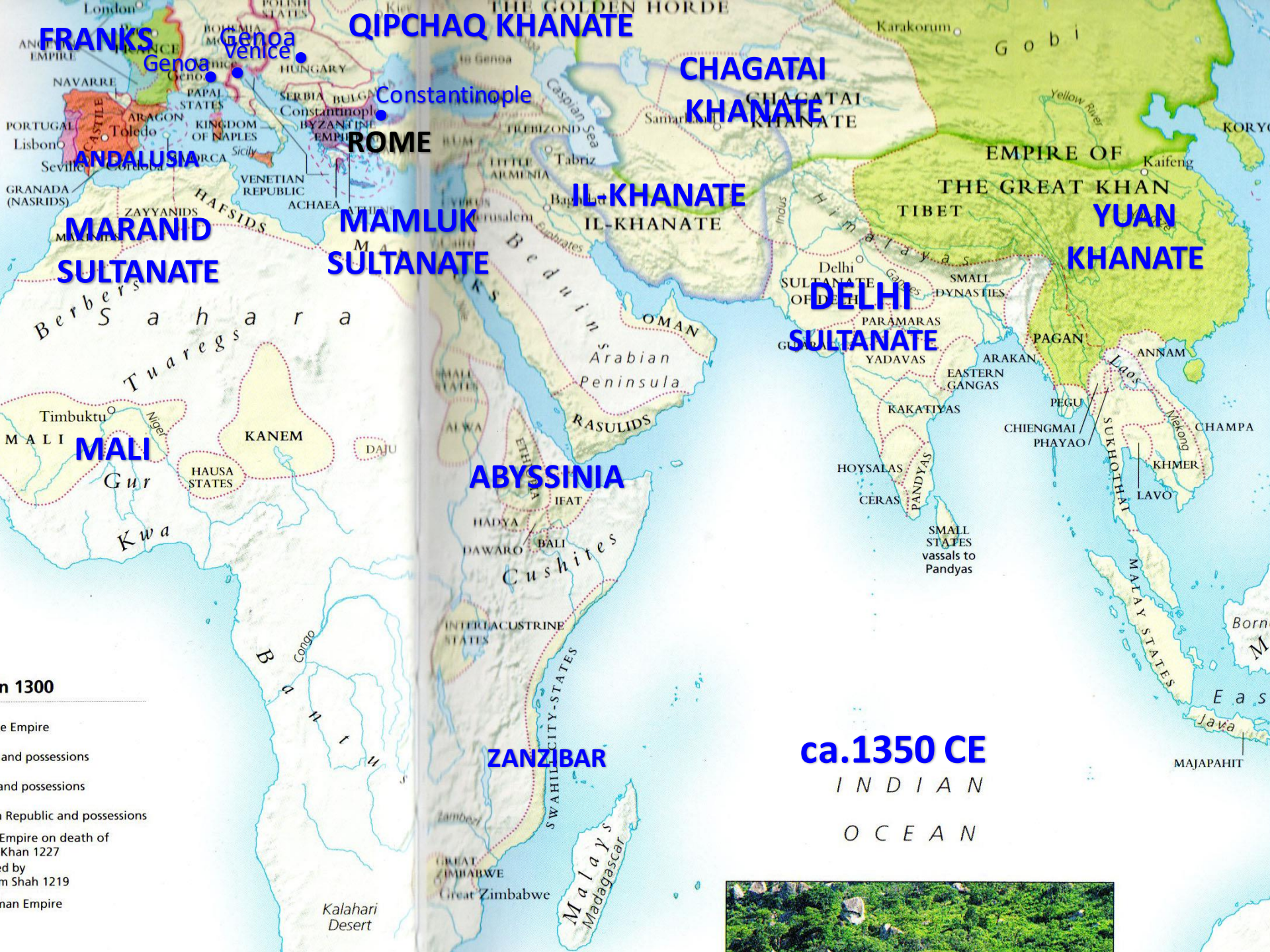
Deir el-Gharbi

Luxor

Ayo

S

Nile



FRANKS

QIPCHAQ KHANATE

CHAGATAI KHANATE

ROME

MAMLUK SULTANATE

MARANID SULTANATE

IL-KHANATE

YUAN KHANATE

DELHI SULTANATE

MALI

ABYSSINIA

ZANZIBAR

ca.1350 CE
INDIAN
OCEAN

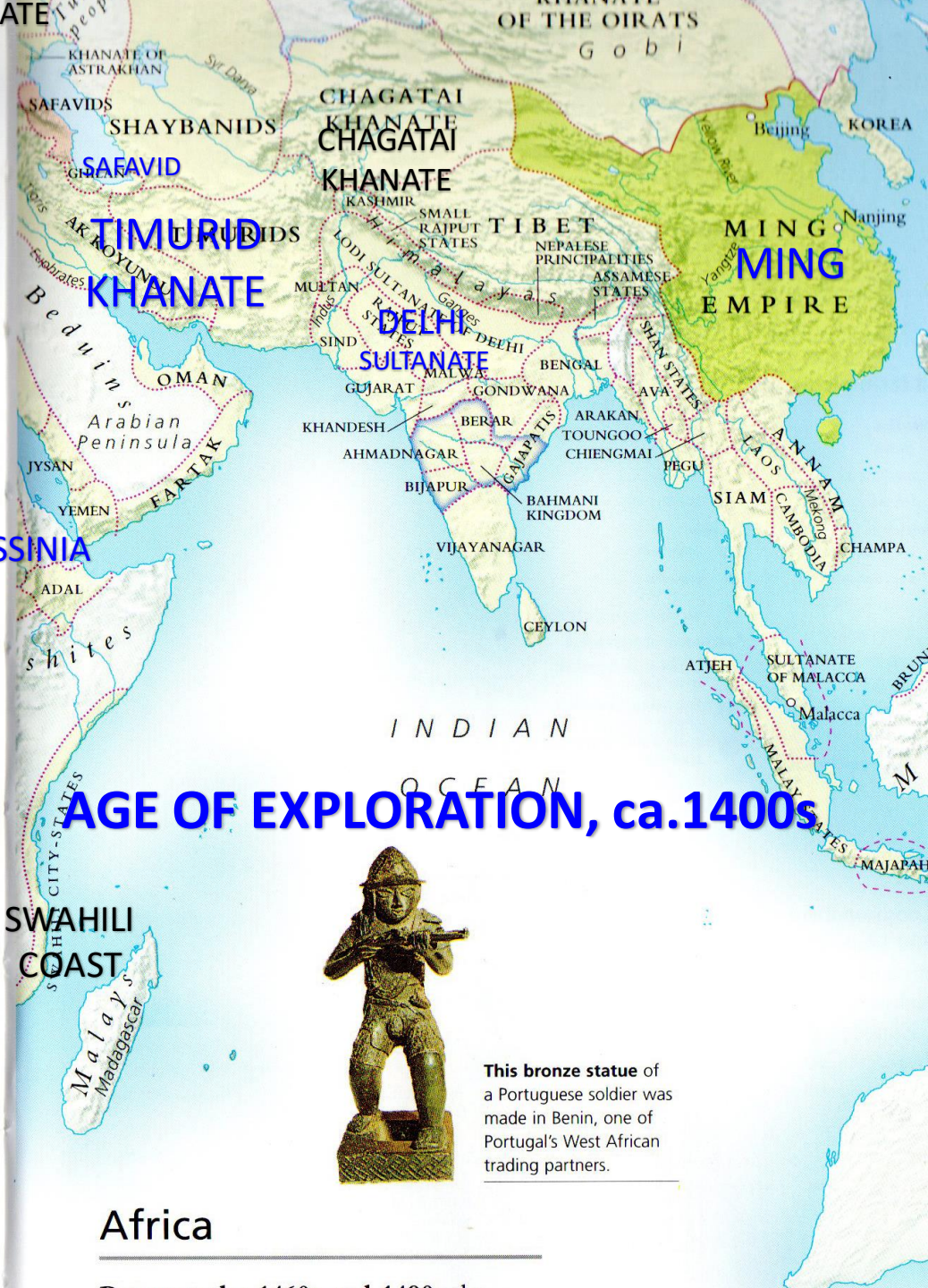
n 1300
 e Empire
 and possessions
 and possessions
 n Republic and possessions
 Empire on death of
 Khan 1227
 d by
 m Shah 1219
 an Empire





BLE TYPE

e of movable metal type by printers German town of Mainz galvanized actual life in Europe, stimulating the rapid of ideas and a huge growth in literacy. type was carved on wooden blocks, as seen in China since the 11th century, saters soon began casting it in metal. By

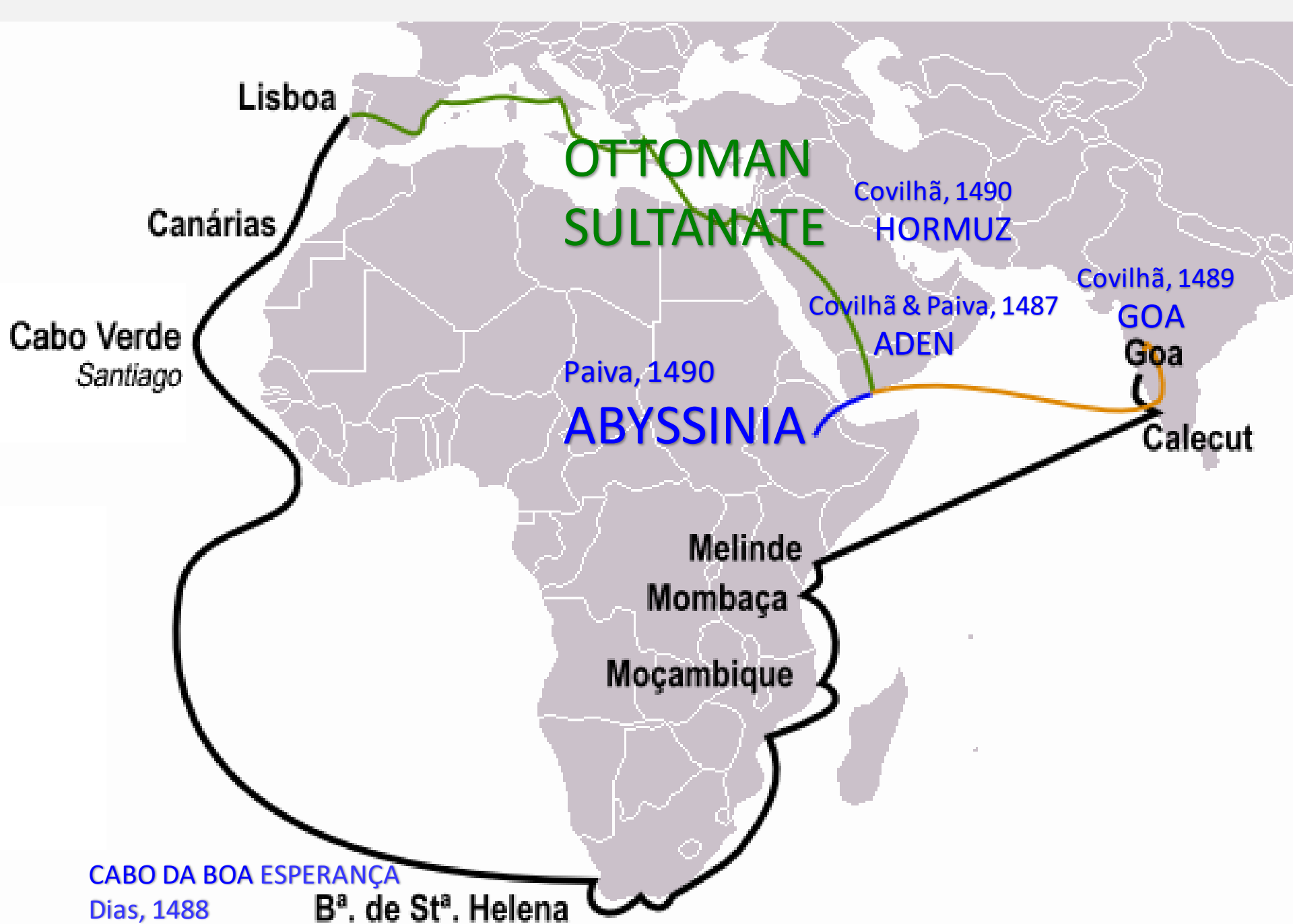


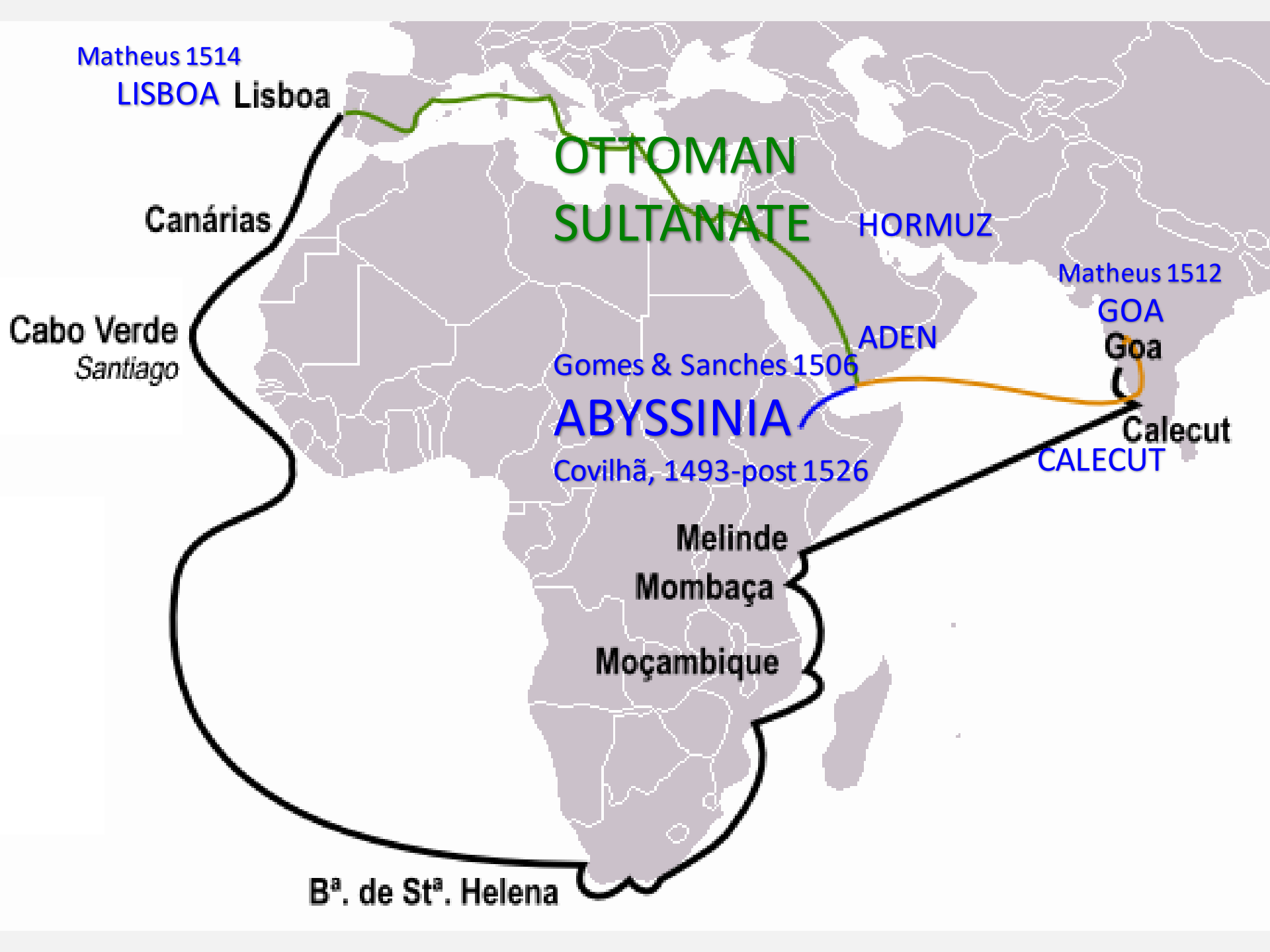
AGE OF EXPLORATION, ca.1400s



This bronze statue of a Portuguese soldier was made in Benin, one of Portugal's West African trading partners.

Africa





Matheus 1514
LISBOA Lisboa

Canárias

OTTOMAN
SULTANATE

HORMUZ

Matheus 1512

GOA
Goa

Gomes & Sanches 1506

ADEN

ABYSSINIA

Covilhã, 1493-post 1526

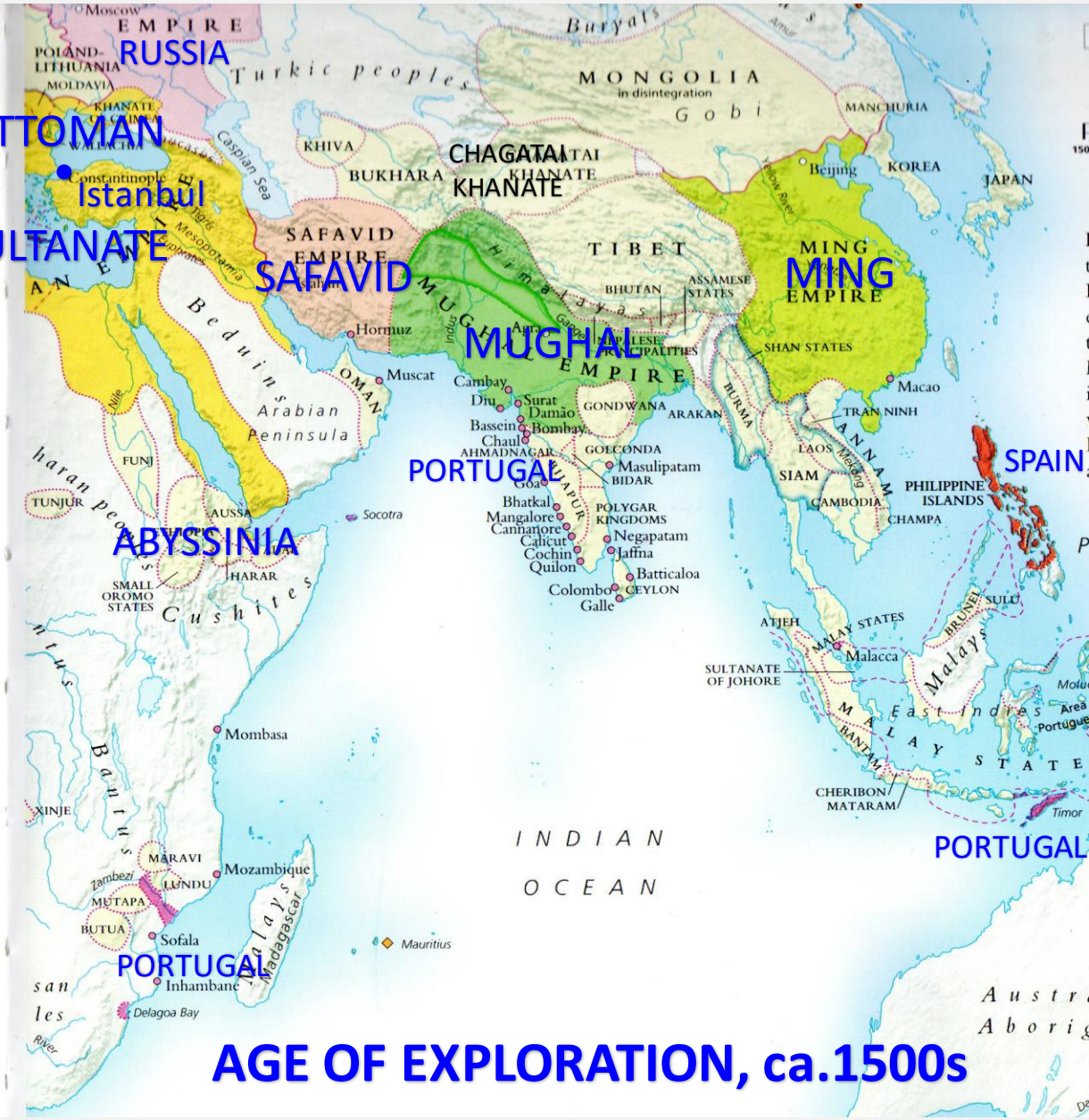
Calecut
CALECUT

Melinde
Mombaça

Moçambique

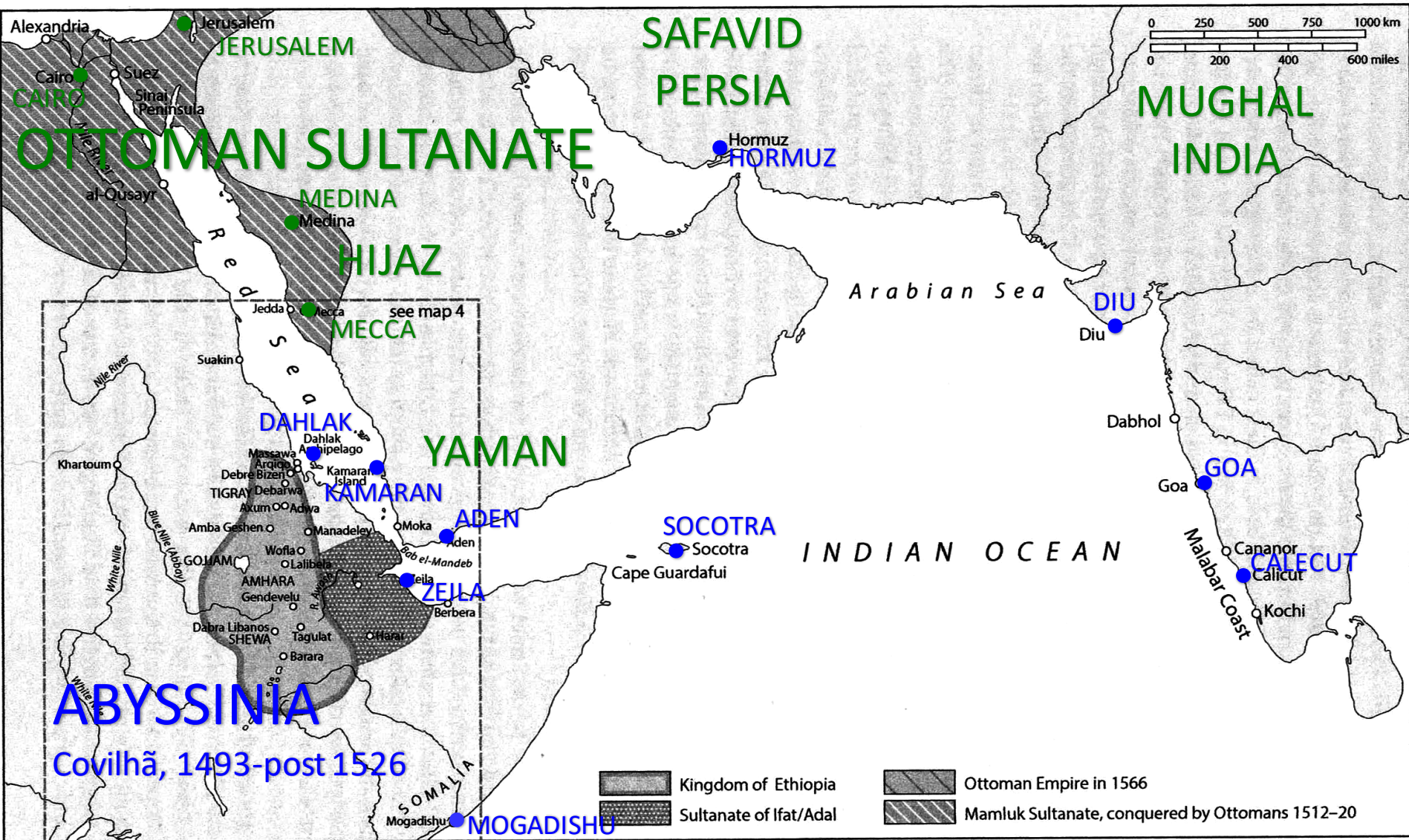
B^a. de St^a. Helena

Cabo Verde
Santiago

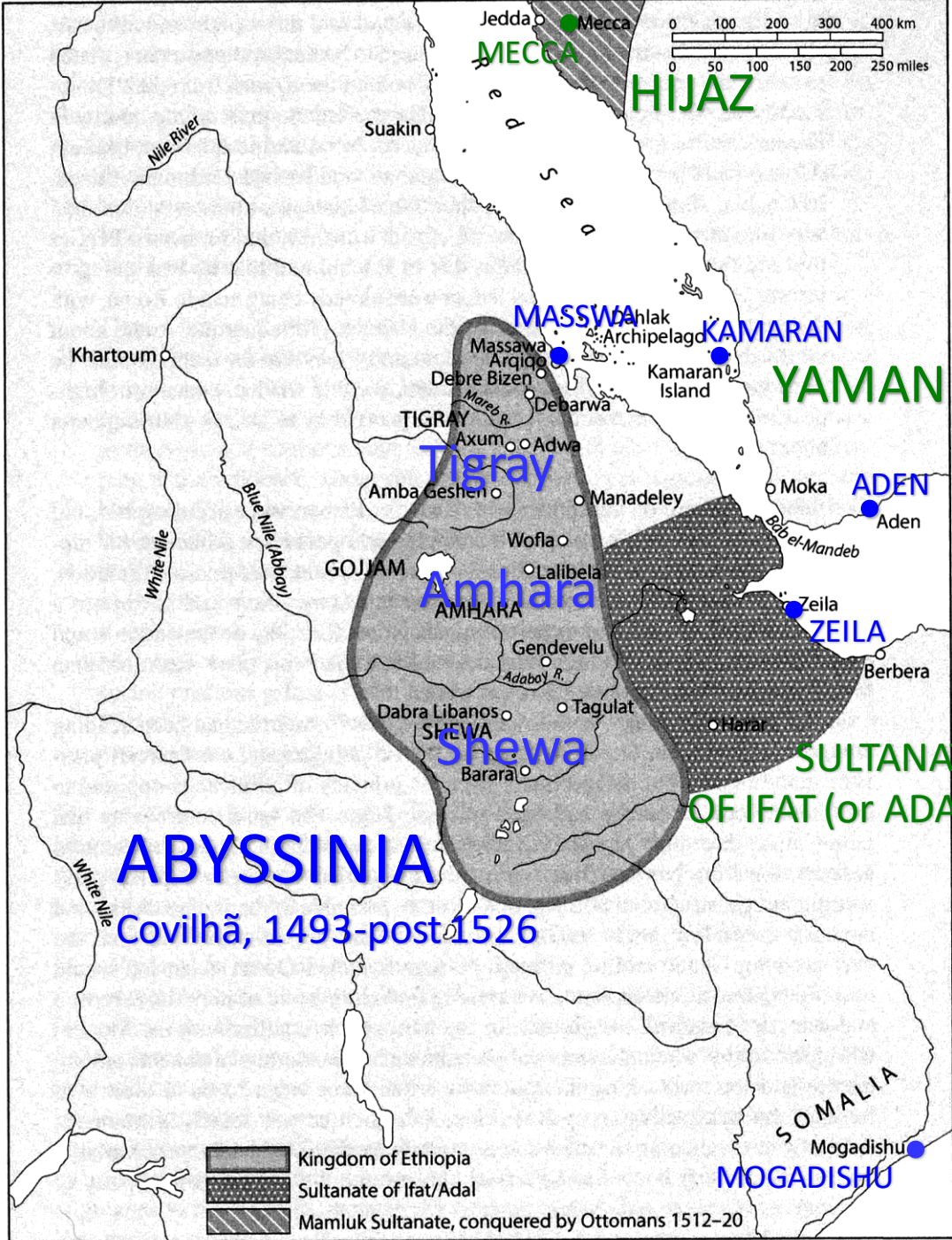


This cast bronze horse and rider is an impressive example of the stylized sculpture of Benin.

AGE OF EXPLORATION, ca.1500s



Map 5.2 The world of the encounter: The Christian Kingdom of Ethiopia, 1400–1550 (Cox Cartographic Ltd.)



EMBASSY OF GALVÃO, 1517
 (for L. Soares Captain-Major,
 Viceroy of India)
 return with Matheus
 Duarte Galvão dies on Kamaran
 return to Goa

EMBASSY OF DA LIMA, 1520
 (for Diogo Lopes de Sequeira
 Captain-Major, Viceroy of India)
 again with Matheus
 (with three Portuguese attendants)
 Rodrigo da Lima & Captain-Major
 land at Massawa

- ABYSSINIA
- Tigray ✕
- Axum & Aduwa ✕
- Amhara
- Lalibela
- Shewa
- IFAT
- Harrar

Travels of Ibn Battuta

1325 – 1354

- Journey 1325–27
- Journey 1327–41
- - - Disputed journeys
- Journey 1341–54
- - - Disputed journeys

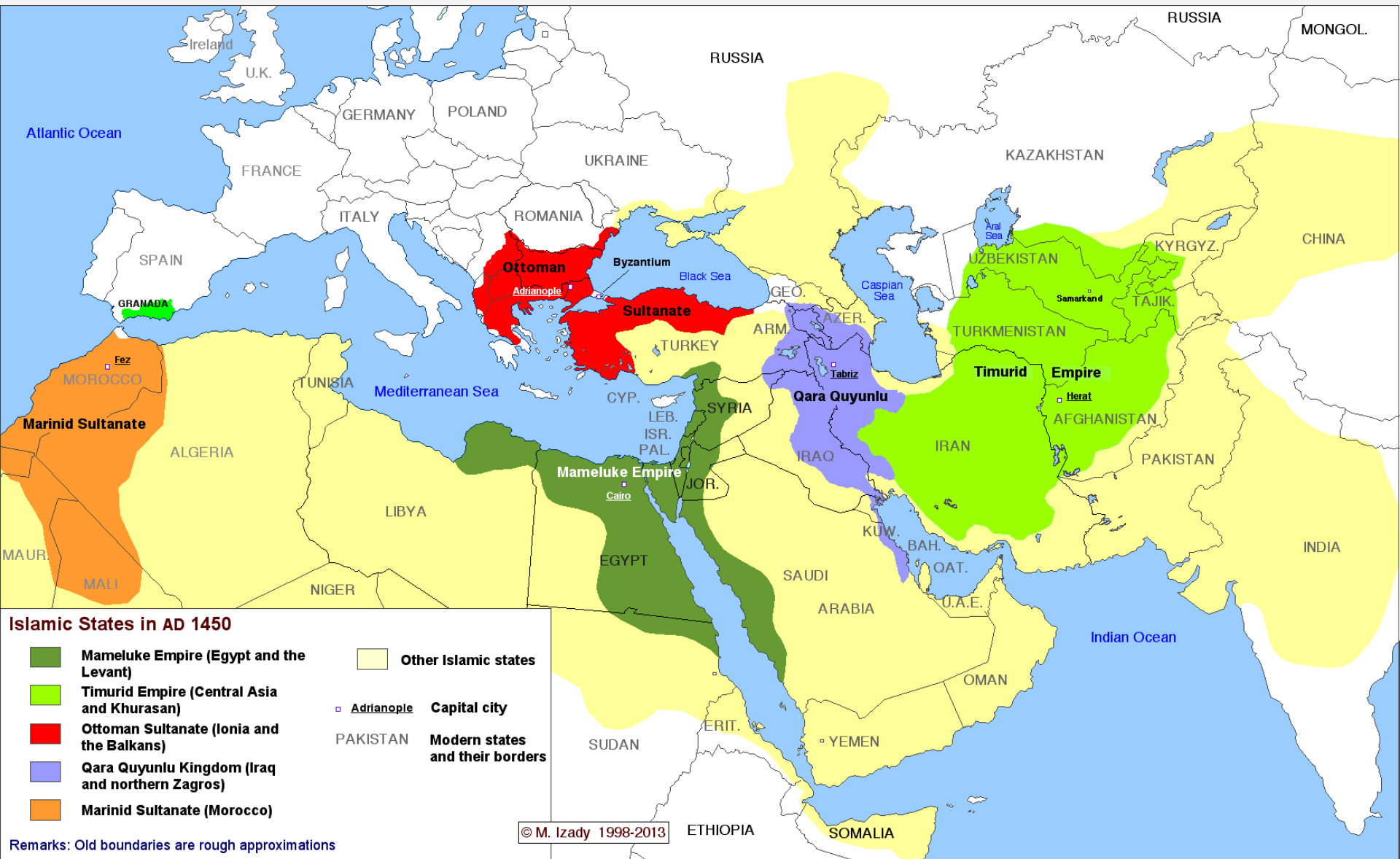


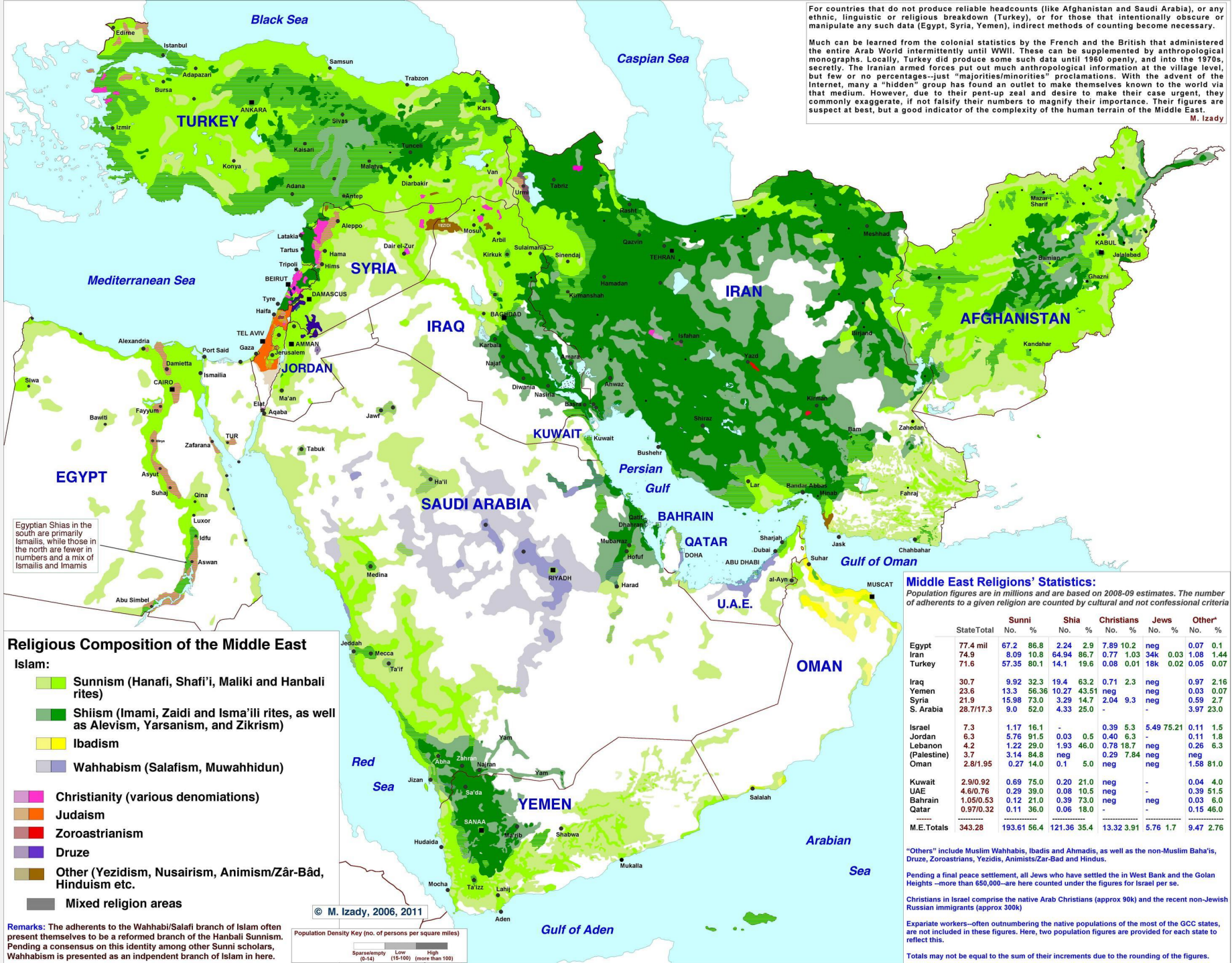
Ottoman Empire



1300

ETHNIC AND CONFESSIONAL IDENTITY





For countries that do not produce reliable headcounts (like Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia), or any ethnic, linguistic or religious breakdown (Turkey), or for those that intentionally obscure or manipulate any such data (Egypt, Syria, Yemen), indirect methods of counting become necessary.

Much can be learned from the colonial statistics by the French and the British that administered the entire Arab World intermittently until WWII. These can be supplemented by anthropological monographs. Locally, Turkey did produce some such data until 1960 openly, and into the 1970s, secretly. The Iranian armed forces put out much anthropological information at the village level, but few or no percentages—just “majorities/minorities” proclamations. With the advent of the Internet, many a “hidden” group has found an outlet to make themselves known to the world via that medium. However, due to their pent-up zeal and desire to make their case urgent, they commonly exaggerate, if not falsify their numbers to magnify their importance. Their figures are suspect at best, but a good indicator of the complexity of the human terrain of the Middle East.

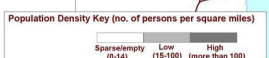
M. Izady

Egyptian Shias in the south are primarily Ismailis, while those in the north are fewer in numbers and a mix of Ismailis and Imamis

Religious Composition of the Middle East

- Islam:**
- Sunnism (Hanafi, Shafi'i, Maliki and Hanbali rites)
 - Shiism (Imami, Zaidi and Isma'ili rites, as well as Alevism, Yarsanism, and Zikrism)
 - Ibadism
 - Wahhabism (Salafism, Muwahhidun)
 - Christianity (various denominations)
 - Judaism
 - Zoroastrianism
 - Druze
 - Other (Yezidism, Nusairism, Animism/Zâr-Bâd, Hinduism etc.)
 - Mixed religion areas

Remarks: The adherents to the Wahhabi/Salafi branch of Islam often present themselves to be a reformed branch of the Hanbali Sunnism. Pending a consensus on this identity among other Sunni scholars, Wahhabism is presented as an independent branch of Islam in here.



Middle East Religions' Statistics:

Population figures are in millions and are based on 2008-09 estimates. The number of adherents to a given religion are counted by cultural and not confessional criteria

	State	Total	Sunnism		Shia		Christians		Jews		Other*	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Egypt	77.4	mil	67.2	86.8	2.24	2.9	7.89	10.2	neg	0.07	0.01	1.44
Iran	74.9		8.09	10.8	64.94	86.7	0.77	1.03	34k	0.03	1.08	1.44
Turkey	71.6		57.35	80.1	14.1	19.6	0.08	0.01	18k	0.02	0.05	0.07
Iraq	30.7		9.92	32.3	19.4	63.2	0.71	2.3	neg	0.97	2.16	
Yemen	23.6		13.3	56.36	10.27	43.51	neg	neg	neg	0.03	0.07	
Syria	21.9		15.98	73.0	3.29	14.7	2.04	9.3	neg	0.59	2.7	
S. Arabia	28.7/17.3		9.0	52.0	4.33	25.0	-	-	-	-	3.97	23.0
Israel	7.3		1.17	16.1	-	-	0.39	5.3	5.49	75.21	0.11	1.5
Jordan	6.3		5.76	91.5	0.03	0.5	0.40	6.3	-	-	0.11	1.8
Lebanon	4.2		1.22	29.0	1.93	46.0	0.78	18.7	neg	0.26	6.3	
(Palestine)	3.7		3.14	84.8	neg	neg	0.29	7.84	neg	neg	neg	
Oman	2.8/1.95		0.27	14.0	0.1	5.0	neg	neg	neg	1.58	81.0	
Kuwait	2.9/0.92		0.69	75.0	0.20	21.0	neg	-	-	0.04	4.0	
UAE	4.6/0.76		0.29	39.0	0.08	10.5	neg	-	-	0.39	51.5	
Bahrain	1.05/0.53		0.12	21.0	0.39	73.0	neg	neg	neg	0.03	6.0	
Qatar	0.97/0.32		0.11	36.0	0.06	18.0	-	-	-	0.15	46.0	
M.E. Totals	343.28		193.61	56.4	121.36	35.4	13.32	3.91	5.76	1.7	9.47	2.76

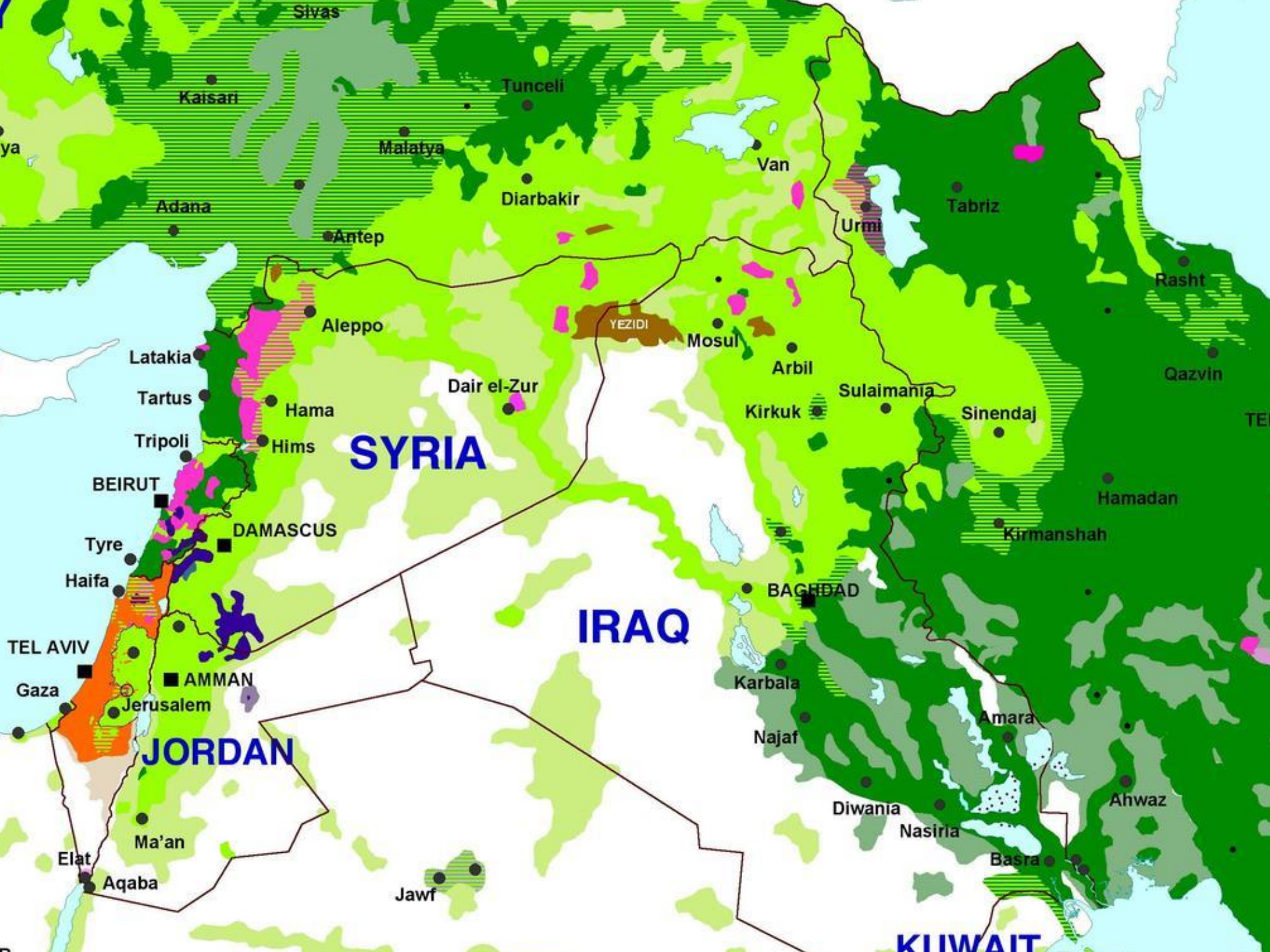
Others include Muslim Wahhabis, Ibadis and Ahmadis, as well as the non-Muslim Bahai's, Druze, Zoroastrians, Yezidis, Animists/Zar-Bad and Hindus.

Pending a final peace settlement, all Jews who have settled in the West Bank and the Golan Heights—more than 650,000—are here counted under the figures for Israel per se.

Christians in Israel comprise the native Arab Christians (approx 90k) and the recent non-Jewish Russian immigrants (approx 300k)

Expatriate workers—often outnumbering the native populations of the most of the GCC states, are not included in these figures. Here, two population figures are provided for each state to reflect this.

Totals may not be equal to the sum of their increments due to the rounding of the figures.



SYRIA

IRAQ

JORDAN

KUWAIT

YEZIDI

Kaisari

Tunceli

Malatya

Van

Adana

Diarbakir

Tabriz

Antep

Urmia

Rasht

Aleppo

Mosul

Qazvin

Latakia

Dair el-Zur

Arbil

Sulaimania

Sinendaj

Tartus

Hama

Kirkuk

TE

Tripoli

Hims

SYRIA

BEIRUT

DAMASCUS

Tyre

Haifa

TEL AVIV

Gaza

AMMAN

Jerusalem

BAGHDAD

Hamadan

Kirmanshah

TEL AVIV

Gaza

AMMAN

Jerusalem

JORDAN

Karbala

Najaf

Amara

Ahwaz

Elat

Ma'an

Aqaba

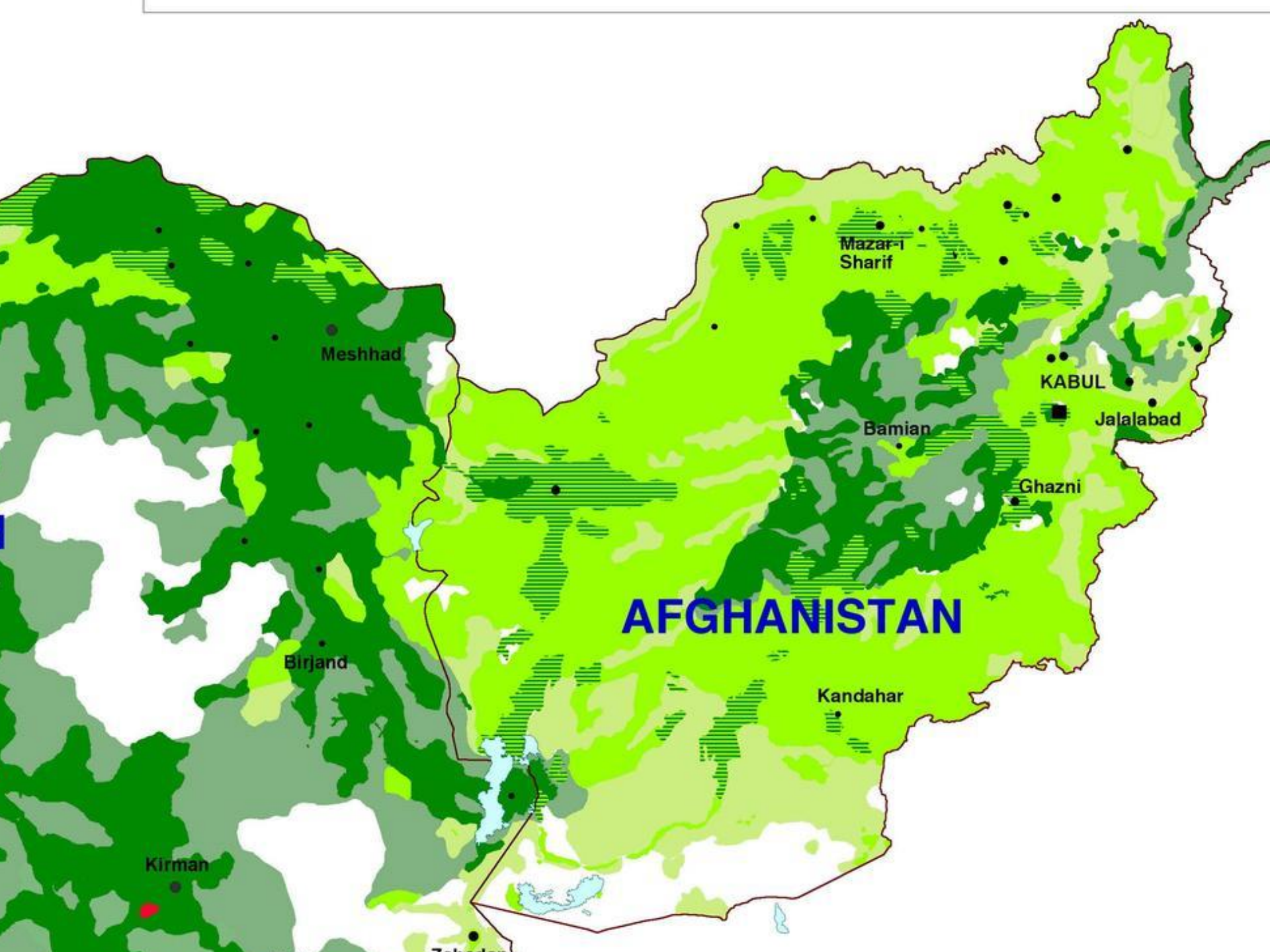
Jawf

Diwania

Nasiria

Basra

KUWAIT



AFGHANISTAN

Mazar-i Sharif

Meshhad

KABUL

Jalalabad

Bamian

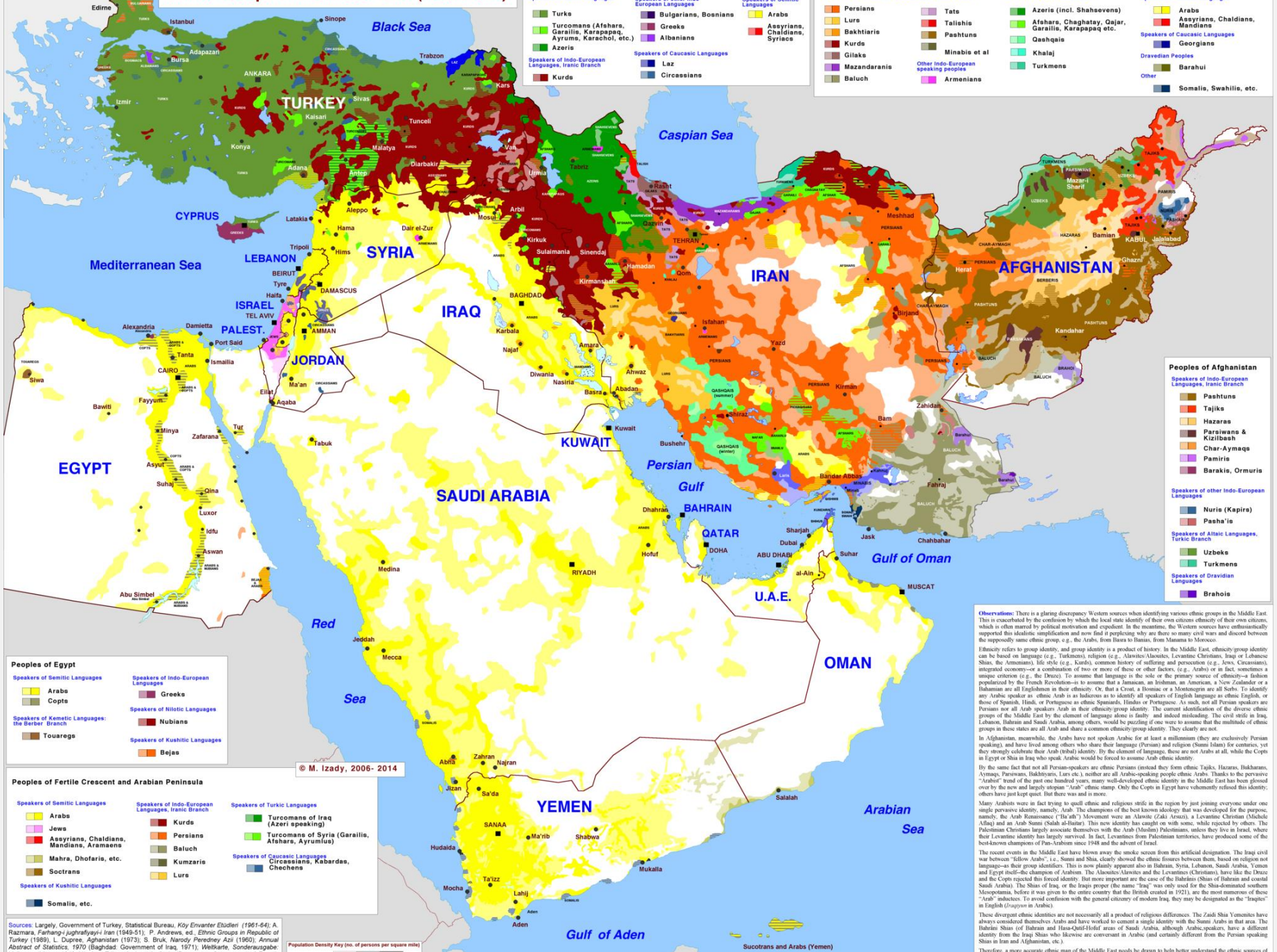
Ghazni

Birjand

Kandahar

Kirman

Ethnic Groups of the Middle East (Traditional)



Peoples of Turkey

Speakers of Turkic Languages

- Turks
- Turcomans (Afshars, Garalis, Karapapaq, Ayrum, Karachol, etc.)
- Azeris

Speakers of Indo-European Languages, Italic Branch

- Kurds

Speakers of other Indo-European Languages

- Bulgarians, Bosnians
- Greeks
- Albanians

Speakers of Caucasic Languages

- Laz
- Circassians

Speakers of Semitic Languages

- Arabs
- Assyrians, Chaldeans, Syrians

Peoples of Iran

Speakers of Indo-European Languages, Italic Branch

- Parthians
- Lurs
- Bakhtiaris
- Guraks
- Mazandarani
- Baluch

Other Indo-European speaking peoples

- Tata
- Talishis
- Qashqais
- Minabis et al
- Turkmen
- Armenians

Speakers of Turkic Languages

- Azeris (incl. Shahsevans)
- Afshars, Chaghathay, Qajar, Garalis, Karapapaq, etc.
- Qashqais
- Khalaj

Speakers of Semitic Languages, Italic Branch

- Arabs
- Assyrians, Chaldeans, Mandians
- Speakers of Caucasic Languages
- Georgians
- Dravidian Peoples
- Barahui
- Somalis, Swahilis, etc.

Peoples of Egypt

Speakers of Semitic Languages

- Arabs
- Copts

Speakers of Indo-European Languages, Italic Branch

- Greeks

Speakers of Nilotic Languages

- Nubians

Speakers of Kushitic Languages

- Bejas
- Touaregs

Peoples of Fertile Crescent and Arabian Peninsula

Speakers of Semitic Languages

- Arabs
- Jews
- Assyrians, Chaldeans, Mandians, Armenians
- Mahra, Dhofaris, etc.
- Soctrans

Speakers of Indo-European Languages, Italic Branch

- Kurds
- Persians
- Baluch
- Kumzaris
- Lurs

Speakers of Turkic Languages

- Turcomans of Iraq (Azeri speaking)
- Turcomans of Syria (Garalis, Afshars, Ayrumis)

Speakers of Caucasic Languages

- Circassians, Kabardians, Chechens

Speakers of Kushitic Languages

- Somalis, etc.

Peoples of Afghanistan

Speakers of Indo-European Languages, Italic Branch

- Pashtuns
- Tajiks
- Hazaras
- Parisiwans & Kizilbash
- Char-Aymaq
- Pamiris
- Barakis, Ormuris

Speakers of other Indo-European Languages

- Nuris (Kapiris)
- Pasha'is

Speakers of Aitac Languages, Italic Branch

- Uzbeks
- Turkmen

Speakers of Dravidian Languages

- Brahuis

Observations: There is a glaring discrepancy in Western sources when identifying various ethnic groups in the Middle East. This is exacerbated by the confusion by which the local state identity of their own citizens ethnicity of their own citizens, which is often marred by political motivation and expedient. In the meantime, the Western sources have enthusiastically supported this idealistic simplification and now find it perplexing why are there so many civil wars and discord between the supposedly same ethnic group. e.g. the Arabs, from Hebra to Hamas, from Muslims to Morocco.

Ethnicity refers to group identity, and group identity is a product of history. In the Middle East, ethnicity-group identity can be based on language (e.g., Turkmen), religion (e.g., Alawites/Alevis, Levantine Christians, Iraq or Lebanese Shia, the Armenians), life style (e.g., Kurds), common history of suffering and persecution (e.g., Jews, Circassians), integrated economy—or a combination of two or more of these or other factors, (e.g., Arabs) or in fact, sometimes a unique criterion (e.g., the Druze). To assume that language is the sole or the primary source of ethnicity—a fashion popularized by the French Revolution—is to assume that a Moroccan, an Indonesian, an American, a New Zealander or a Bahaman are all Englishmen in their ethnicity. Or, that a Croat, a Bosnian or a Montenegrin are all Serbs. To identify any Arabic speaker as "ethnic Arab" is as ludicrous as to identify all speakers of English language as ethnic English, or those of Spanish, Hindi, or Portuguese as ethnic Spaniards, Hindus or Portuguese. As such, not all Persian speakers are Persian nor all Arab speakers Arab in their ethnicity-group identity. The current identification of the diverse ethnic groups of the Middle East by the element of language alone is faulty and indeed misleading. The civil strife in Iraq, Lebanon, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, among others, would be puzzling if one were to assume that the multitude of ethnic groups in these states are all Arab and share a common ethnicity-group identity. They clearly do not.

In Afghanistan, meanwhile, the Arabs have not spoken Arabic for at least a millennium; they are exclusively Persian speaking, and have lived among others who share their language (Persian) and religion (Sunni Islam) for centuries, yet they strongly elaborate their Arab (tribal) identity. To the element of language, they are not Arabs at all, while the Copts in Egypt or Shia in Iraq who speak Arabic would be forced to assume Arab ethnicity identity.

By the same fact that not all Persian-speakers are ethnic Persians (instead they form ethnic Tajiks, Hazaras, Bakhamans, Aymaq, Parisiwan, Bakhtiaris, Lurs etc.) neither are all Arabic-speaking people ethnic Arab. Thanks to the pervasive "Arabist" trend of the past one hundred years, many well-developed ethnic identity in the Middle East has been glossed over by the new and largely stopgap "Arab" ethnic stamp. Only the Copts in Egypt have vehemently refused this identity; others have just kept quiet. But there was and is more.

Many Arabists were in fact trying to quell ethnic and religious strife in the region by just joining everyone under one single pervasive identity, namely, Arab. The champions of the best known ideology that was developed for the purpose, namely, the Arab Renaissance ("The Arab") Movement were an Alawite (Zaki Arzani), a Levantine Christian (Michel Aza) and an Arab Sunni (Salah al-Bitar). This new identity has caught on with some, while rejected by others. The Palestinian Christians largely associate themselves with the Arab (Muslim) Palestinians, unless they live in Israel, where their Levantine identity has largely survived. In fact, Levantines from Palestinian territories, have produced some of the best-known champions of Pan-Arabism since 1948 and the advent of Israel.

The recent events in the Middle East have blown away the smoke screen from this artificial designation. The Iraqi civil war between "Shiite Arabs", i.e., Sunnis and Shias, clearly showed the ethnic fissures between them, based on religion not language—or their group identities. This is now plainly apparent also in Bahrain, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Egypt (i.e., the champion of Arabism: The Alawites/Christians). The Alawites/Christians (i.e., Jews like the Druze and the Copts) rejected this forced identity. But more important are the case of the Bahranis (Shias of Bahrain and coastal Saudi Arabia). The Shias of Iraq, or the Iraqi proper, the name "Iraq" was only used for the Shia-dominated southern Mesopotamia, before it was given to the entire country that the British created in 1921; are the most numerous of these "Arab" inductees. To avoid confusion with the general citizenry of modern Iraq, they may be designated as the "Iraqis" in English (*Iraqiyun* in Arabic).

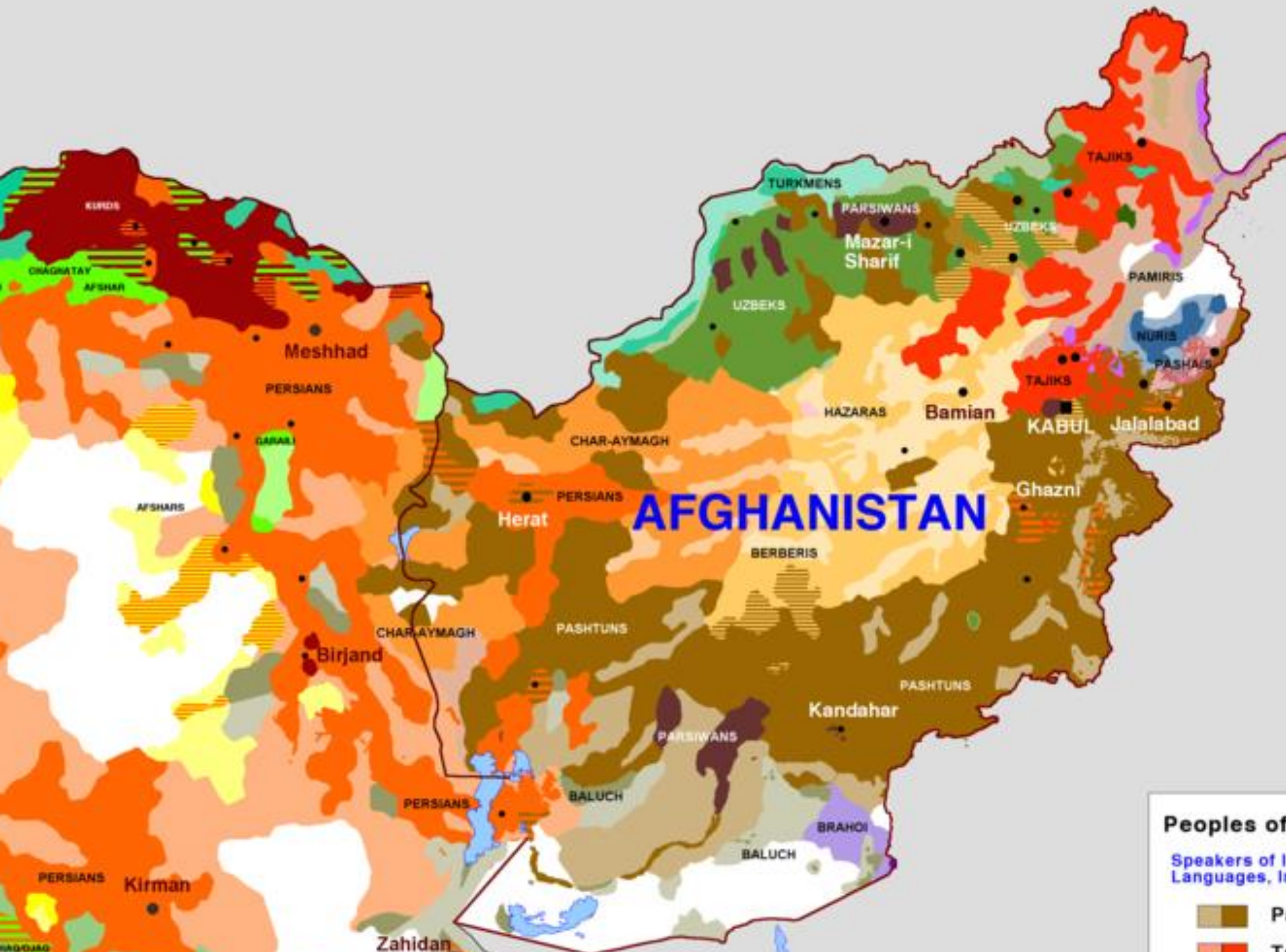
These divergent ethnic identities are not necessarily a product of religious differences. The Zaidi Shia Yemenites have always considered themselves Arabs and have worked to cement a single identity with the Sunni Arabs in that area. The Bahranis Shias (of Bahranis and Hejaz-Qatifa) of areas of Saudi Arabia, although Alawite/Christians, have a different identity from the Iraqi Shias who likewise are conversant in Arabic (and certainly different from the Persian speaking Shias in Iran and Afghanistan), etc.

Therefore, a more accurate ethnic map of the Middle East needs to be drawn to help better understand the ethnic sources of much unrest that has afflicted the new Middle East, from Egypt and Syria to Iraq, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan. This map, meanwhile, represent the traditional ethnic subdivisions of the Middle East.

Sources: Largely, Government of Turkey, Statistical Bureau, *Koy Evvanter Etudileri* (1961-64); A. Razmara, *Fahang-i jughrafiyyi-i Iran* (1949-51); P. Andrews, ed., *Ethnic Groups in Republic of Turkey* (1989); L. Dupree, *Afghanistan* (1973); S. Brur, *Narody Pervoyey Azii* (1960); *Annual Abstract of Statistics*, 1970 (Baghdad: Government of Iraq, 1971); *Weltkarte, Sonderausgabe Volkstum* (Vienna 1943-44); Les Tribus Arabes de Syrie (Damascus: Government of French Mandate of Syria, Section d'Étude du service des renseignements du Levant, 1930).

Population Density Key (no. of persons per square mile)

Scale: 0 to 1000 Miles / 0 to 1000 Kilometers

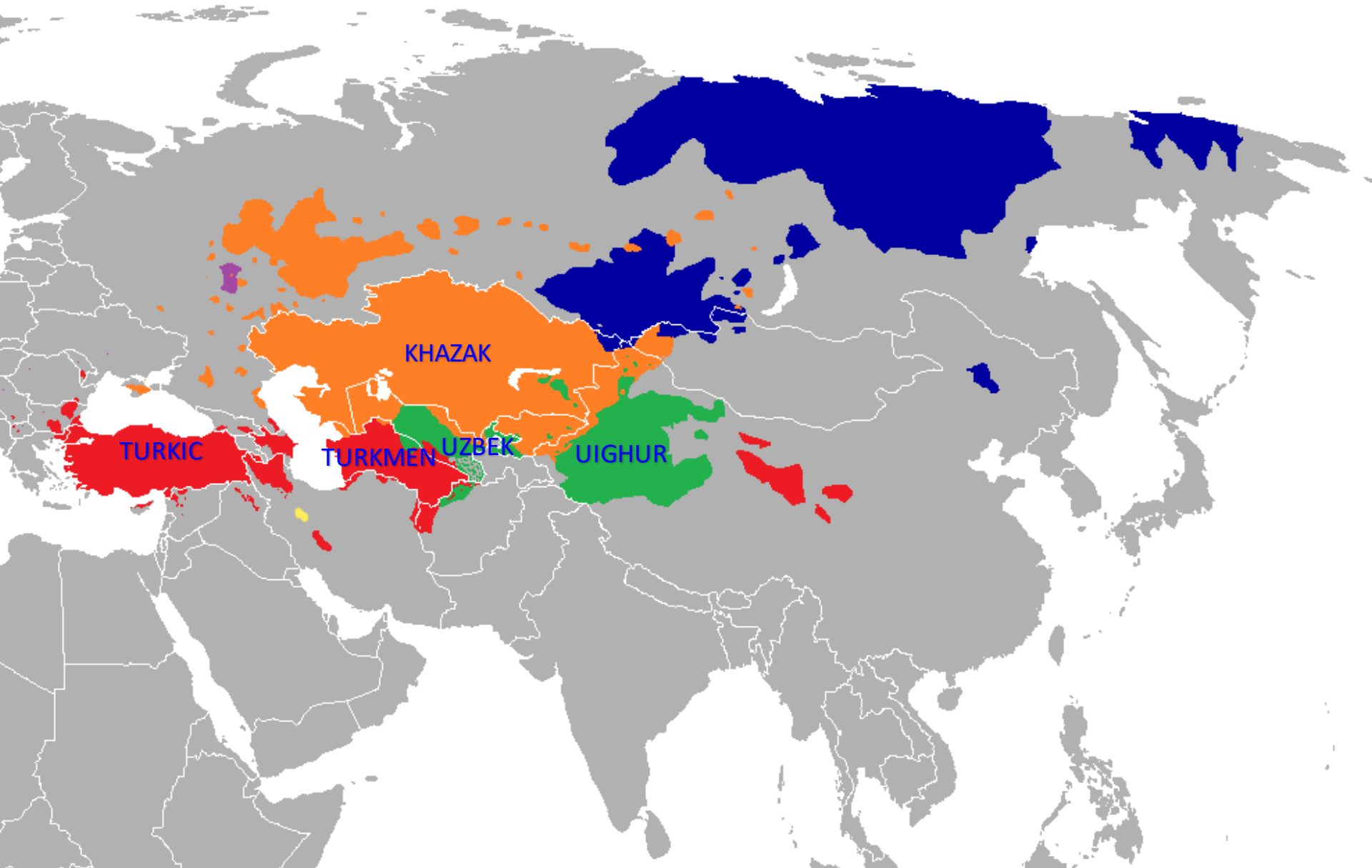


AFGHANISTAN

Peoples of
 Speakers of
 Languages, I

[Brown square]	P
[Red square]	T
[Green square]	U
[Purple square]	B

ETHNIC AND CONFESSIONAL IDENTITY



ETHNIC AND CONFESSIONAL IDENTITY

