

# Year 9 Geography: The Middle East

## Keywords/Terms:

1. **Population Diversity:** The differences between the people that live in a particular area, such as culture, religion, language.
2. **Urbanisation:** A process that makes (esp a predominantly rural area or country) more industrialized and urban (like a city)
3. **Relief Maps:** A type of map that shows height and steepness
4. **Plateaus:** Vast, flat land mass
5. **Mountain Range:** Many mountains in one area.
6. **Climate:** the general weather conditions that are typical of it.
7. **Global oil demand:** How much oil is needed around the world.
8. **Diversify:** To have different ways of making money.

### The Middle East is not:

- a precise geographical area like Europe or Africa
- It's not a political or economic alliance like the European Union.
- an agreed-upon term by the countries that constitute it.

### The Middle East is:

- Accepted the term as a geographical point of reference
- Conservative View: Countries bound by Egypt to the West, the Arab Peninsula to the South, and at most Iran to the East.
- Expansive View: Mauritania in West Africa and all the countries of North Africa that are members of the Arab League; eastward, it would go as far as Pakistan

## Economy:

The Middle East currently economically relies upon Oil and Travel & Tourism.

Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq are major exporters of oil. Syria & Yemen are minor exporters. This highlights huge difference in economic success in the Middle Eastern countries.

Many Middle Eastern countries are trying to move away from a dependence on oil, towards: Green Technologies, sports and leisure and other sources of income.

## Case Study: Jerusalem.

- Inside the **Christian Quarter** is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, a significant focus for Christians all over the world.
- The **Muslim Quarter** is the largest of the four and contains the shrine of the Dome of Rock and the al-Aqsa Mosque on a plateau known to Muslims as Haram al-Sharif, or the Noble Sanctuary.
- The **Jewish Quarter** is home to the Kotel, or the Western Wall, a remnant of the retaining wall of the mount on which the Holy Temple once stood.