



CHALKE VALLEY
HISTORY FESTIVAL
FOR SCHOOLS
TEACHER NOTES



SCHOOLS HISTORY HUB: THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST

Age Group: Key Stage 5

Key Question: What is the significance of the Middle East in the past, the present and in the future?

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BEFORE WATCHING THE VIDEO:

- It would help to have an up-to-date map of the Middle East by you.
- **FACT:** The Ottoman Empire included most of the Middle East and lasted from the 14th century to 1922.
- **FACT: Taqfiri – taqfirism** This Arabic word refers to one Muslim declaring that another is not a true believer. It is used by radical Islamic groups such as al Qaeda and Islamic State (IS) to describe and attack Muslim states which are ‘not Islamic enough’.



The talk on this video is given by Lieutenant-General Sir Simon Mayall. He served in the British Army in the Middle East, particularly in Oman and Iraq, and was Deputy Senior Advisor on the Middle East to the Ministry of Defence.



THE TALK IS SHAPED AROUND SEVEN QUESTIONS. MAKE NOTES OF SIMON MAYALL'S RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS IN THE SPACES BELOW:

You may find it useful to pause the video at the end of each section to catch up your notes in response to this wide-ranging and thorough survey.

What was the significance, and the consequence, of the collapse of the Ottoman Empire?



What has been the impact of Great Power involvement in the Middle East?



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What are the building blocks of friction and conflict in the Middle East?



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What is the continuing significance of global energy supplies to the Middle East?



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What is the importance of studying history to understanding the region?



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Why should we remain interested in the Middle East as the pursuit of fossil fuels declines?



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What are your predictions for the future of the Middle East?



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AFTERWARDS

In groups, talk about your answers then talk about our key question: **Did the army make sure that front line soldiers in the First World War were well-fed??**

