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EVOLUTION OF THE WORLD POLITICAL SYSTEM

Great civilizations and empires: Egypt, the Indus Valley, Athens, Sparta, the Americas, China, Persia, Rome, and smaller political divisions

Dark Ages | **Middle Ages** | **Renaissance**

Russia's Ivan the Great

476	570	800	1350	1462	1513	1517	1534	1550
Fall of Rome	Mohammad born; Islam founded	Charlemagne crowned "Emperor of the Romans"	Mayan civilization peaks	Russian consolidation begins	Machiavelli writes *The Prince*	Reformation begins	Henry VIII breaks with pope	
Great empire of Ghana founded		Idea of universal Christian empire begins				Beginning of the collapse of Holy Roman Empire		

1762	1776	1789	1800	1804	1815	1824	1842	1848
Rousseau's *Social Contract*	American Revolution	French Revolution	World population 1 billion	Napoleon emperor	Napoleon defeated	Most of Latin America independent	Great Britain acquires Hong Kong	Marx's *Communist Manifesto*
	Popular nationalism begins/divine right challenged				Shaka establishes modern Zulu nation in southern Africa		Era of modern European imperialism in Africa and Asia begins	

Multipolar System Declines

World Depression | **World War II**

Hitler in power

United Nations founded

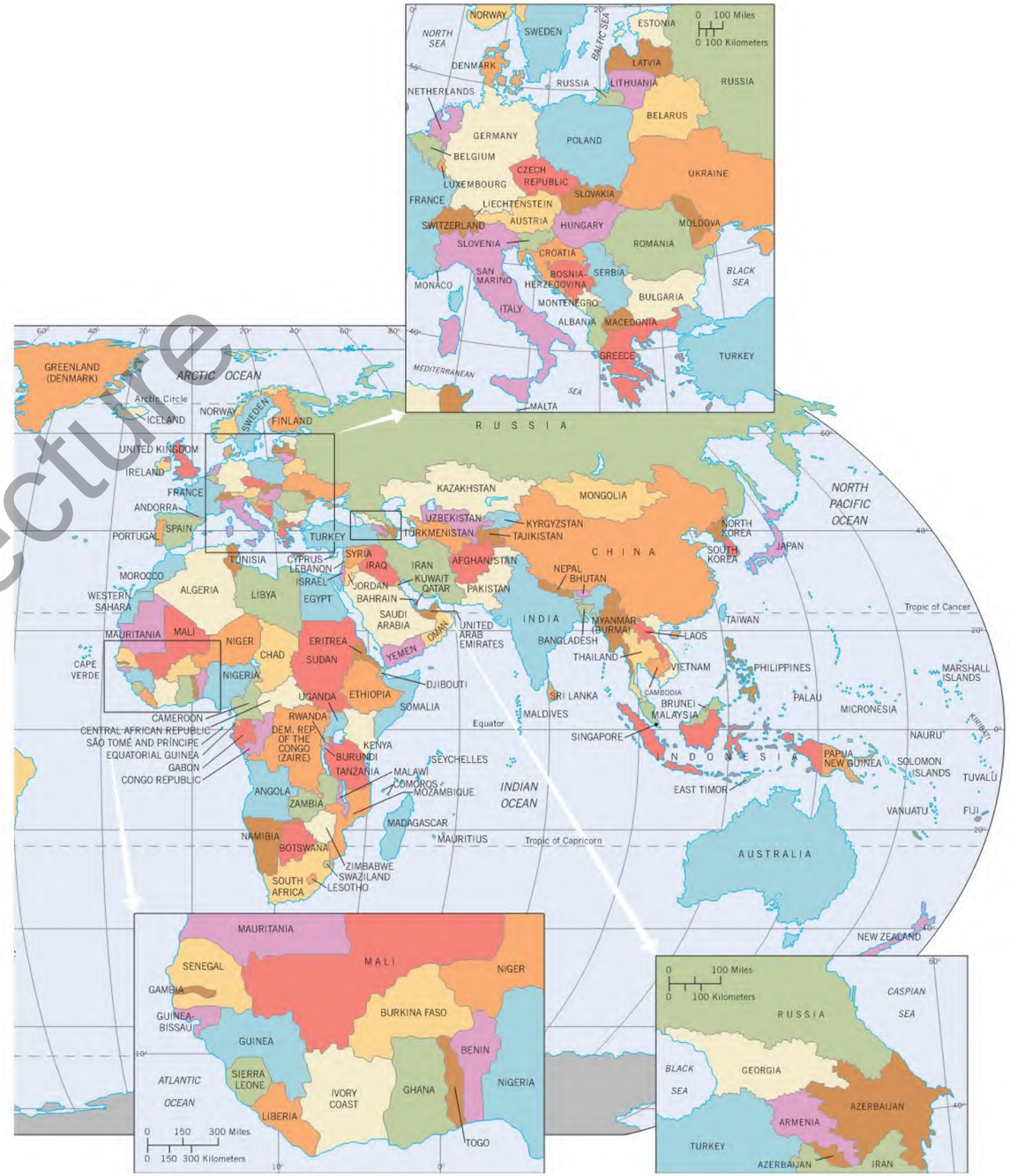
1918	1919	1930	1934	1936	1938	1939	1944	1945
World War I ends	Versailles Peace Conference; League of Nations	World population 2 billion	Mao Zedong's Long March begins	First television broadcast	Munich crisis	Germany invades Poland	Bretton Woods Conference	Atomic bomb dropped

Bipolar Era | **Bipolar System Declines**

1964	1969	1972	1974	1975	1976	1979	1981	1985
U.S. enters war in Vietnam	First man on the Moon	SALT I; Nixon visits China	World population 4 billion	U.S. out of Vietnam; South Vietnam falls to North	Mao dies	Soviets invade Afghanistan	Reagan in power	Gorbachev in power
				First personal minicomputer (Altier 8800) advertised	Chinese reforms begin			Soviet reforms begin

U.S. Dominance in an Era of Change

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
India and Pakistan conduct nuclear tests	World population 6 billion; Putin in power	UN Millennium Summit	Bush in power; 9/11 terrorist attack	Earth Summit II	International Criminal Court formed; Hu Jintao in power in China	EU expands to 25 members	EU constitution defeated	North Korea tests nuclear weapons
	NATO intervenes in Kosovo		War in Afghanistan	Switzerland joins UN	War in Iraq	Tsunami hits South Asia	Israel withdraws from Gaza	



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