

**KEY TERMS:**

<b>CONFLICT</b>	An active disagreement between people with opposing opinions or principles
<b>WAR</b>	Armed fighting between two or more countries or groups
<b>CHOROPLETH MAP</b>	A map which uses differences in shading, colouring, or the placing of symbols within predefined areas to indicate the average values of a particular quantity in those areas.

# YEAR 9: CONFLICT

## LOCATION OF SYRIA



## GENERAL REASONS FOR CONFLICT

- Political views
- Religious views
- Territory (land)
- Natural resources (e.g. Oil)

## How does geography impact conflict?

**Flat land:** Provides little cover and can be a disadvantage when engaging with war. In particular, if the opposition are located on higher ground

**Climate:** Extremes in weather and visibility can affect war. Mass migration caused by a change in this factor may cause increased levels of conflict.

2000	President Bashar al-Assad comes into power
March 2011	Syrian people started to protest against the president demanding their basic human rights
Sept 2014	US and five Arab countries launch air strikes against Islamic State in Syria
2000	President Bashar al-Assad comes into power

## Key knowledge about Syria

The name of the major river we studied which runs through Syria is called the Euphrates

The Syrian conflict started in 2011

Bashar Al-Assad is the president of Syria. He has been president since 2001 without a vote. This type of leadership is known as autocracy

The term 'The Arab Spring' refers to people in Arab countries who rebelled against autocratic leaders demanding democracy and better standards of living.

An example of a country who supported the Syrian government is Russia.

**Resources**

Natural resources can create conflict. Fighting can occur over the use of water or over the ownership of natural resources.

## THE RIVER NILE

The River Nile is both a **source of water to millions of people** in the ten countries that border its basin and a source of conflict between these nations.

A **treaty** exists from 1929 which states that nothing would be done that would reduce the volume of water reaching Egypt via the Nile. This access is essential as the country has almost no other source of water.

However, **recent times** have seen **conflicts arise** as countries further up-river are planning to extract water from the Nile for drinking and irrigation.



## Water conflict:

In recent years there has been increased water conflict. This due to:

- Increasing populations, and therefore more demand on resources like water.
- Increasing industrialisation which also requires water

## According to UNESCO:

In the past half-century....

There have been over 500 conflicts over water.

Seven of these have involved violence. 260 river basins in the world transcend national borders.

145 nations have territory in a river basin that crosses borders.

Water is predicted by some to be a key cause of future conflicts around the globe.

## WHAT IS A DAM?

A dam is a barrier or structure across a river that can hold and control the flow of water. The building of the **Illisu Dam on the Tigris River in Turkey** has caused much conflict because:

It will displace up to 70,000 people

It means Turkey can control the flow of water into Iraq.

