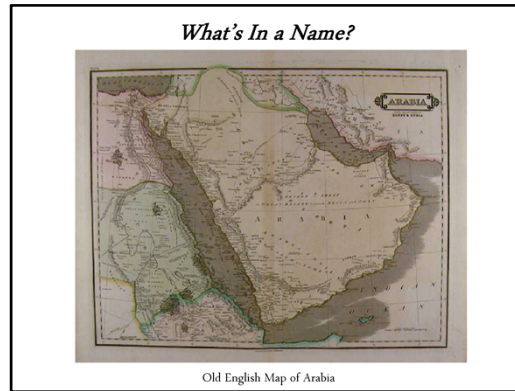




The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—commonly known as KSA—occupies 80 percent of the territory of the Arabian Peninsula, located at the southwest corner of the Asian continent. Seven countries share a total of 2,753 miles (4,431 kilometers) of land borders with Saudi Arabia: Jordan on the northwest, Iraq on the north and northeast, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates on the east, Oman on the southeast and Yemen on the south. Covering an area of approximately 830,000 square miles (almost 2.15 million square kilometers), KSA is the fourteenth largest country in the world in terms of size. Great geographical diversity is a signature feature of the Saudi land.

[1 minute]

**[Click for Page 2](#)**



The earliest known use of the word Arab dates from ancient Assyria in the ninth century BCE. The term is thought by some to be derived from a Semitic root associated with nomadism. Uses of the closely related word *Arabia* followed soon thereafter. The term *Arabia* historically has referred to the Arabian Peninsula proper, as well as adjacent lands and waters, extending as far west as the Nile River and as far north as the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. This area is known collectively as the “Fertile Crescent.”

[30 seconds]

**Click for Page 3**

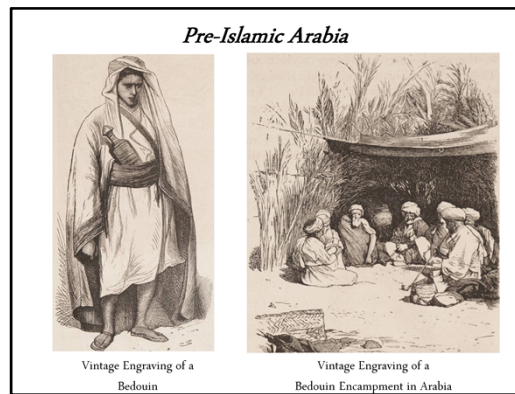


The earliest confirmed signs of human settlement in Arabia date back over 15,000 years to prehistoric times at the end of the last Ice Age. The earliest historical records date back 5,000 years at the establishment of the Egyptian civilization on the banks of the Nile. Lacking a mighty river to water and enrich their soil, limited by scant resources, and confronted by a climate of great extremes and a succession of foreign armies, the native peoples of the Arabian Peninsula have forever faced numerous challenges in their everyday lives. And yet, for five millennia and more, they have thrived and influenced the history of the world.

Set at the crossroads of three continents—Africa, Asia and Europe—Arabia was known for its trade routes which flowed the bulk of luxury items from Asia to the Mediterranean Basin and Europe. Camels and donkeys burdened with pepper, ginger, cardamom, cinnamon, cassia, turmeric and more from India's Malabar Coast trekked Arabia's caravan routes. Other valuable goods making their way across the Spice Trade included silks, precious stones, silver, gold and aromatics like balsam, terebinth, frankincense and myrrh. Celebrated traditions and enduring images emerged from this fabled land and era, often appearing as themes in fine art, literature and popular culture.

[1 minute, 15 seconds]

[Click for Page 4](#)

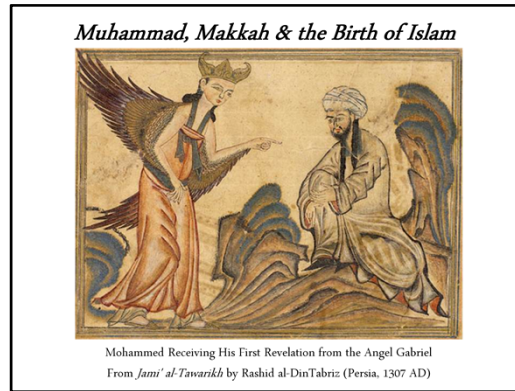


For vast stretches, the land traversed by those long-ago caravans was arid, challenging terrain, mostly desert, with a seemingly endless ocean of sand dunes lying far to the south in a region known as “Rub’ al Khali” (“The Empty Quarter”). Local tribes, each with their own distinctive traditions, populated the peninsula; some exist to this day. The rigors of adapting to life in such a land led to a system of communal life where deep-rooted tribal, clan and family loyalties helped make survival possible.

Over the centuries, those tribes struggled often amongst themselves and their environment. Through countless generations, hardy nomads found ways to survive in even the harshest of the peninsula’s tracts, steeling themselves to the desert’s heat and cold and conditioning themselves to endure for days at a time without food and water. Endurance, determination and perseverance are hallmarks of the Saudi character, key elements in understanding who and what these people are and how they view and live life.

[1 minute]

[Click for Page 5](#)



A major event in Saudi Arabian history was the birth of Muhammad ibn 'Abdullah in Makkah in 570 CE, a member of the powerful Quarysh tribe. Orphaned by age six, he was raised by an uncle. After working as a shepherd and a merchant, at age twenty-five he married a rich widow, Khadeejam, fifteen years his senior. Together they had six children; only their daughter Fatima survived. Growing discontented with the degenerate heathens in Makkah, Muhammad retired into the nearby mountains. In those mountains, at age 40, in the month of Ramadan, he received the first in a series of revelations ("hadiths") from God, delivered by the angel Gabriel, revelations that continued until his death in 632.

[45 seconds]

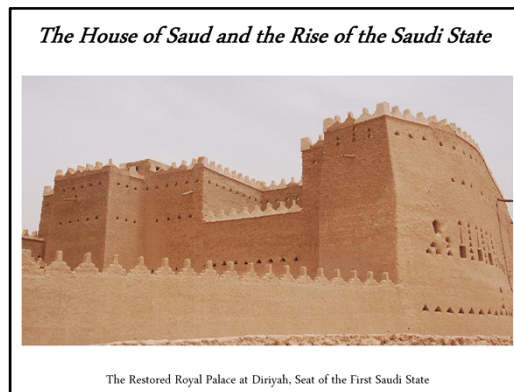
[Click for Page 6](#)



Surrounded by a group of about forty dedicated companions (“Sahabahs”) in 613, Muhammad began preaching publicly that there was but one true god to whom all men must submit, launching a direct attack on the polytheism of Makkah. In 622, the threat of persecution by local authorities forced him to flee Makkah for Madinah, an event known as the Hejira, or Flight, marking the start of the Muhammadan Era, which is also the first year of the Muslim calendar. Resettled in Madinah, Muhammad was recognized by believers as the prophet of God. Drawing to himself many followers, he led them on a series of conquests, culminating in the taking of Makkah in 630. Triumphant, he demolished the many pagan idols in the Kaaba and instituted the monotheistic religion we know today as Islam.

[1 minute]

**[Click for Page 7](#)**

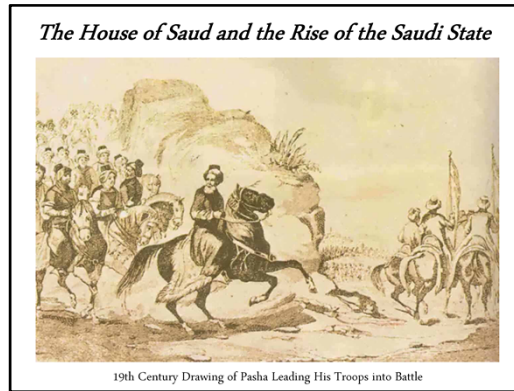


The first modern attempt to unify the diverse tribes of the Arabian Peninsula was led by Prince Muhammad bin Saud in 1744. His revolt resulted in the formation of the First Saudi State. Once in control, ibn Saud sought to restore a distinctively Bedouin vision of orthodox Islam in the peninsula. Much as the prophet Muhammad had done many centuries before, he wished to cleanse the land of heretical practices and lead its people back to the rightful worship of the One God.

Bin Saud looked for guidance to the teachings of a Muslim scholar and reformer named Shaikh Muhammad bin Abdul-Wahhab. Early in the eighteenth century, Abdul-Wahhab advocated a return to the original form of Islam, founding the Wahhabist strain of Islam. Over the next sixty-plus years, under the leadership of the House of Saud, the kingdom continued to expand.

[1 minute, 15 seconds]

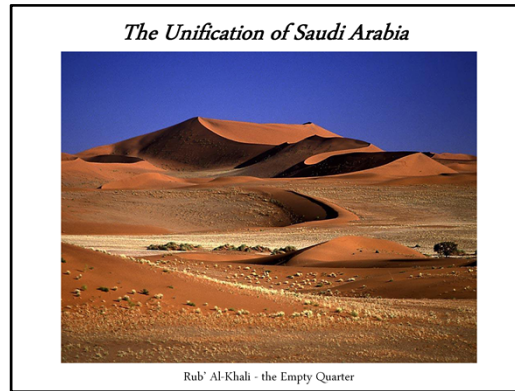
**Click for Page 8**



Following Saud's death in 1814, the Turks continued their assault, challenging the rule of Saud's son, Abdullah. In 1818, a large and well-armed force made up mostly of Egyptians launched a final, determined drive. Abdullah's forces suffered a crushing defeat late that year, and the Ottomans took control of the Saudi capital of Diriyah. Captured and sent to Istanbul, Abdullah was tried and beheaded by the Ottomans, putting an end to the First Saudi State. Many members of the local nobility, including those of the Al Saud clan, were sent as prisoners to Egypt and Turkey.

[30 seconds]

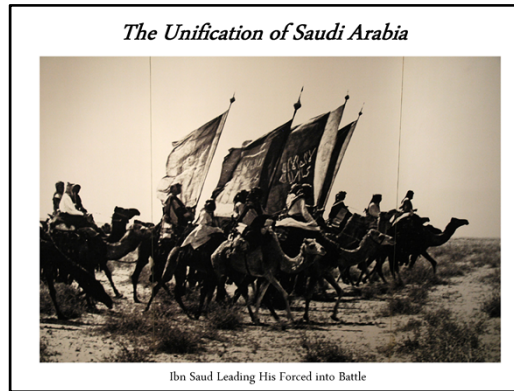
**Click for Page 9**



For nearly a century after the Turks destroyed Diriyah, they continued to wage war against the House of Saud's dream of creating an enduring, unified Arab state. In 1865, the Ottomans renewed their campaign to extend their empire into the interior of the Arabian Peninsula. Supported by the Ottomans, the rival Al-Rashid family of Hail rose up in an attempt to overthrow the Second Saudi State. After a long struggle, the head of the House of Saud, Abdulrahman bin Faisal Al-Saud, was forced to give up his throne and seek refuge with the Bedouin tribes in the Rub' Al-Khali, the "Empty Quarter," in 1891. In time, Abdulrahman and his family relocated to Kuwait. As a new century dawned, his young son Abdul Aziz took his first steps toward finally securing the independence of modern Saudi Arabia.

[1 minute]

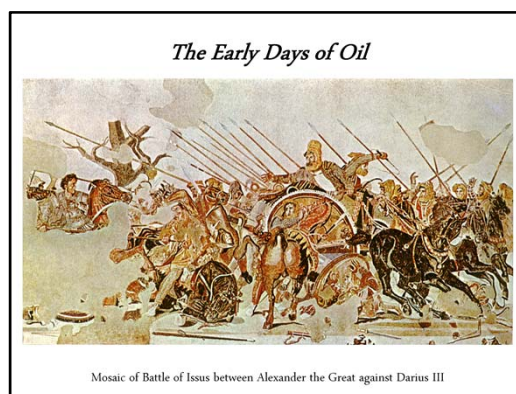
**[Click for Page 10](#)**



In 1902, at the age of twenty-three, Abdul Aziz ibn Abdur Rahman ibn Faisal al Saud, better known as ibn Saud, took his first not-so-tentative step toward greatness. Though badly outnumbered, he led a band of nine armed men in a daring early-morning raid on Riyadh, then under the control of the rival Al-Rashid family. Having just overthrown the Al-Rashid ruler there, he reportedly called out to an assembled crowd, “Who is on my side... Who? Your own amir [prince] is with you again.”

[30 seconds]

**Click for Page 11**



Oil has been a part of human life for over five millennia. Early known uses include as a fuel for fires, as a weapon, as a medicine, as a source of lighting, and as a sealant and mortar.

In the nineteenth century, appreciation of crude oil's potential value began to grow. A dependence on whale oil for lighting turned problematic as populations plummeted due to over-hunting. When the process to distill kerosene from petroleum was discovered in the 1840s, along with the invention of the kerosene lamp a decade later, demand increased for affordable petroleum-based kerosene as an alternative to increasingly scarce and expensive whale oil. In a classic market response, a scramble ensued to find new supplies.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 12**

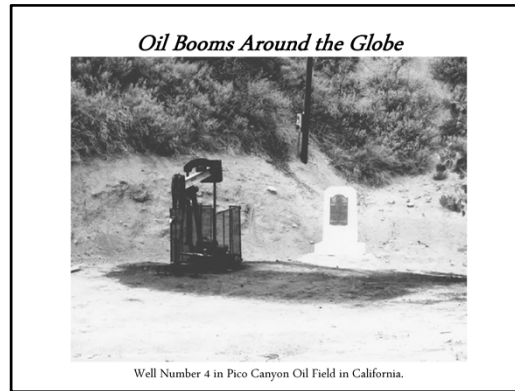


The world's first commercial well was drilled in Poland in 1853 and the world's first refinery was built in Ploiești, Romania mere months later.

“Colonel” Edwin Drake’s landmark discovery at Titusville, Pennsylvania in 1857 is generally regarded as the birth of the modern oil industry. When searching for a source of kerosene, Drake used cable-tool percussion techniques that were normally employed when digging for water or driving piles. For his well, Drake chose a spot close by visible tar-like bituminous seeps adjacent to an aptly-named rivulet, Oil Creek. For the rest of the nineteenth century, locating visual signs of oil seepage, à la Drake, remained the favored technique employed by oil prospectors.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 13**

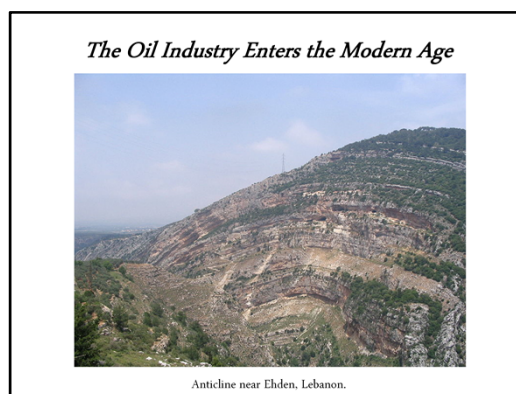


As the world's appetite for oil grew, exploration spread across the globe. The first wells at Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela came in the 1870s. In 1885, the Royal Dutch Petroleum Company struck crude in Sumatra. One year later, the Burmah Oil Company Ltd. was formed in England and began developing oil fields in Southeast Asia. Other discoveries of oil were others scattered around the planet, many of them on U.S. soil.

Following the Pennsylvania model, a boisterous procession of oil booms arrived in Ohio, Texas, Oklahoma, California, and a smattering of other states. The first well in the western United States with commercial success was sunk at Pico Canyon, 35 miles northwest of Los Angeles, in 1876. The owner of the well, Pacific Coast Oil Company, later became Standard Oil of California (Socal)—today's Chevron. Several Southern California “bonanza fields” rank among the most productive per acre in history.

[1 minute, 15 seconds]

**Click for Page 14**



The hunt for new oil fields intensified in the wake of Drake's discovery. Geology became a prime tool in solving the mystery of where to look for elusive deposits. A revealing subplot involved anticlines, geological formations composed of upward-thrusting folds or domes in the earth's crust where older underlying rock layers have been exposed due to the erosion of younger top layers that originally comprised their bulging crests.

In the mid-1800s, the first director of the Geological Survey of Canada noticed that oil seeps often occurred near anticlines in Canada. He speculated that similar formations might also signal accessible accumulations of trapped hydrocarbons. He sent a geologist to confirm his hunch and history proved them right, but not right away. In hindsight, the clues were there, but nobody was yet able to connect them into a convincing package.

[45 seconds]

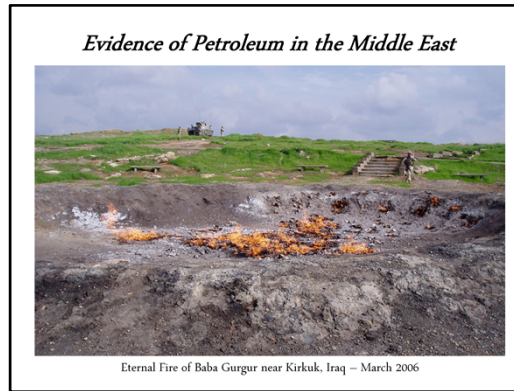
**Click for Page 15**



All doubts about the significance of anticlines vanished when the first great American gusher “roared in like a shot from a heavy cannon and spouted oil a hundred feet over the top of the derrick,” as one writer put it, in January 1901. This eureka moment took place on the crest of an anticlinal hummock called Spindletop outside Beaumont, Texas. Ramshackle huts housing oil companies soon blanketed the area. One of those sheds belonged to a newly-founded concern calling itself The Texas Company, the forerunner of Texaco. Events at Spindletop signaled the start of the Texas oil industry, securing permanent leading roles for America and the Lone Star State in the saga of modern oil.

[45 seconds]

[Click for Page 16](#)



In the Middle East, evidence of petroleum deposits date back to ancient times. By the start of the twentieth century, oil-hungry explorers had taken notice. In 1908, the first discovery of crude in the region was located in western Persia (Iran). The next year, the Anglo–Persian Oil Company (forerunner of today’s BP) was formed to develop the field. England moved quickly to secure control, hoping to outflank Czarist Russia, Persia’s northern neighbor, in a duel between two empires vying for oil supremacy. In northern Iraq, near the city of Kirkut, a flaming gas seep known as “Eternal Fire” had been burning for at least 4,000 years. In 1927, a huge oil field was finally located near the city at Baba Gurgur.

[45 seconds]

**[Click for Page 17](#)**



When American interests were excluded from pursuing the petroleum wealth of Arabic-speaking lands in a post-World War I Anglo–French oil treaty, developers set their sights on Saudi Arabia, which was outside the bounds of the treaty. In May 1933, after months of negotiations, the Saudi government signed a concession agreement with Socal to search for oil. In 1934, Socal passed the concession to a wholly-owned subsidiary it created the previous November: the California–Arabian Standard Oil Company (Casoc).

[30 seconds]

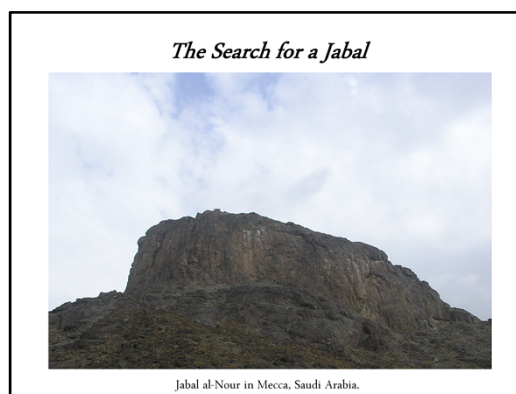
**Click for Page 18**



Oil's potential as a valuable export commodity was clear to the Saudis, who needed revenue to invest in their new nation. Reviewing long-term prospects for mutual cooperation, they believed their new American partners would be equitable in their dealings with the Kingdom and less consumed by political interests and nonbusiness issues than other suitors. U.S. oil interests found a loyal friend and lasting partner in the House of Saud. The Americans positioned themselves as the anti-imperialist alternative, in part because they had little choice given the determination of their former war allies to exclude them from post-war oil competition beyond their shores.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 18**



Three months after the signing of the concession, two American geologists, Robert “Bert” Miller and Schuyler “Krug” Henry arrived on the Arabian Gulf coast to begin a hunt that would change history. In September, they set up camp at the “humpy” limestone hills known as Jabal Dhahran, an archetypal anticlinal geological formation they had spotted while drilling on Bahrain. In the coming months, a pared-down Casoc variation of the anticlinal theory was formulated: find a *jabal* and look for signs of oil in the vicinity.

For the next few years, a team of Casoc geologists conducted exhaustive geological reconnaissance across the Eastern Province, an area larger than the state of Texas, adding a Fairchild airplane to their arsenal in March 1934. After several disappointing years of drilling, Socal formed a fifty-fifty joint venture with The Texas Company, later known as Texaco, to manage their collective assets in the Middle East in 1936. They named their new company Caltex. Caltex took over Casoc, giving each upstream parent company an equal interest in the Saudi concession.

[1 minute]

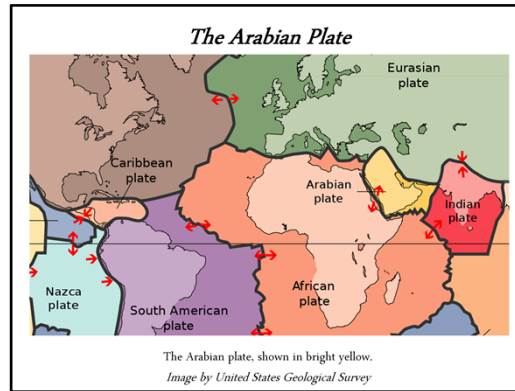
**Click for Page 20**



After years of drilling and disappointment, the team's refusal to quit paid off when, at a depth of nearly 5,000 feet, deep-test well Damman No. 7, hit oil in March 1938. For weeks after the well first produced oil, its volume of flow remained steady until no doubts remained. Delighting anxious investors in California, the team reported with absolute confidence that Damman was a commercial field. Two other wells deemed unproductive at the time—Damman No. 2 and Damman No. 4—were reopened and deepened to reach the Arab Zone where No. 7 had hit pay dirt, with the same welcome result. The discovery of commercial quantities of oil at Damman Dome on March 4, 1938 forever changed the course of Saudi history.

[1 minute]

[Click for Page 21](#)



The Arabian Peninsula is sometimes referred to by geologists instead as the *Arabian subcontinent*. The peninsula lies on a tectonic plate of its own, called the Arabian Plate. For hundreds of millions of years, the Arabian Plate has been slowly inching away from the African Plate, forming the Red Sea to the west of Saudi Arabia, and northward into the Eurasian Plate, forming the Zagros mountains on the eastern side of the Arabian Gulf, stretching along southern and western Iran and into northern Iraq. Experts have concluded that the rich oil and gas fields of Saudi Arabia owe their existence to a long and stable tectonic history along the northeastern margin of the Arabian Plate.

An important geological feature known as the Precambrian Arabian Shield covers most of the western region of Saudi Arabia. Many of its features are volcanic in origin, including basalt lava fields, volcanic vents and cinder cones. Enhanced satellite images reveal underlying fault systems in the sandstone and limestone substrata hidden from sight beneath rivers and seas of sand.

[1 minute]

[Click for Page 22](#)



*World War II Alters Oil Development in Saudi Arabia*



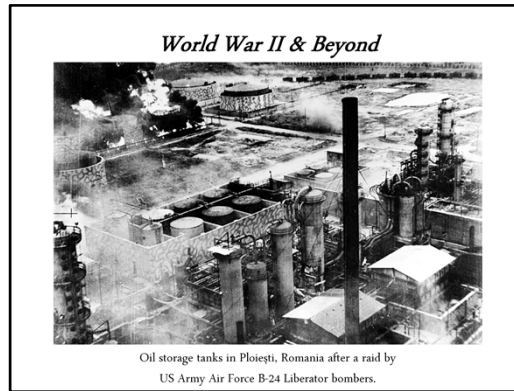
Wielun, Poland Destroyed by *Luftwaffe* bombing in 1939.

Casoc reported to Ibn Saud their success at Dammam and gladly handed over a previously-agreed-to advance of 50,000 pounds in gold, holding up their end of the Saudi–American partnership. Known forever after as Lucky No. 7, that one well produced 32 million barrels of oil before it was removed from service in 1982. In recognition of Dammam’s uniqueness, it became known as a “supergiant” field. The neighboring Kuwait field is rated as another supergiant.

In April 1939, Ibn Saud traveled from his capital at Riyadh to the port city of Ras Tanura to personally turn the valve that loaded the first Saudi crude oil for export onto the Socal tanker *D. G. Scofield*. Four months later, Adolf Hitler sent German troops into Poland, starting World War II and altering the development of oil fields everywhere.

[1 minute]

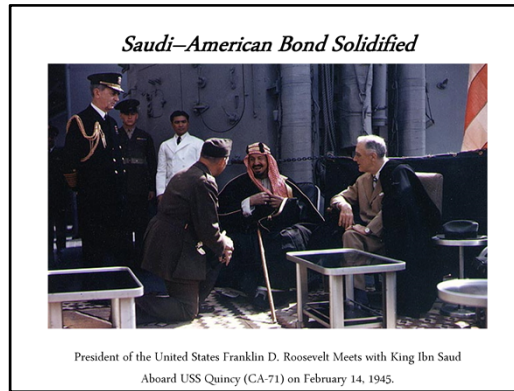
**Click for Page 24**



Many major strategic decisions of the Second World War centered on oil. Hitler invaded Russia with the hope of capturing the oil-rich Caucasus region. A primary objective of the joint German–Italian campaign in North Africa was the seizure of the Suez Canal, providing direct access to Middle Eastern oil. Japan's invaded Indonesia in an effort to seize control of Dutch oil fields. To cripple the Nazi war machine, the Allies launched bombing raids on the German-controlled oil facilities at Ploiești, Romania. Both the Allies and Axis Powers realized that adequate oil supplies would be a determining factor in winning the war.

[30 seconds]

**Click for Page 25**

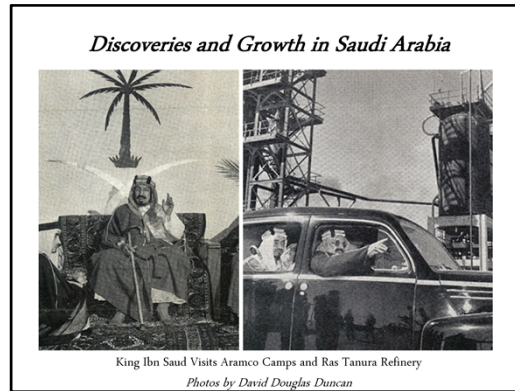


With the latest world war entering a climax, American president Franklin Roosevelt sailed on the cruiser *U.S.S. Quincy* into the Great Bitter Lake of the Suez Canal in February 1945. After negotiations with Winston Churchill and Josef Stalin at the Yalta Conference, FDR planned to meet with Ibn Saud, an event that proved to be a critical moment for U.S.–Saudi relations.

In 1948, Socal and The Texas Company were joined by two new partners. Standard Oil of New Jersey (the predecessor of Exxon) purchased a 30 percent share and Socony Vacuum (the predecessor of Mobil) purchased a 10 percent share. Later that year, the Ghawar Field, the largest onshore oil field in the world, was discovered east of Riyadh with estimated reserves of 80 billion barrels. Since this discovery, Aramco's rate of growth has accelerated at a daunting pace.

[1 minute]

[Click for Page 26](#)



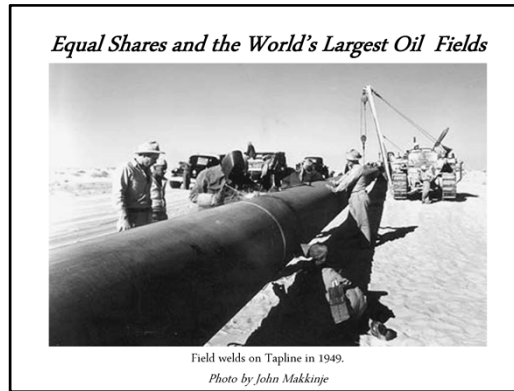
As World War II battles waged across the globe, new discoveries of oil were made in Saudi Arabia at Abu Hadriya north of Dammam in early 1940 and at Abqaiq southwest of Dammam later that year.

In 1940, oil production from the Middle East accounted for less than 5 percent of total world production, while the U.S. accounted for nearly two-thirds. The full realization of the region's oil potential came only after the defeat of Germany and Japan.

The construction of a major oil refinery at Ras Tanura began in 1943 and opened for operation in 1945; it has grown into the largest oil refinery in the world. On January 31, 1944, Casoc changed its name to Arabian American Oil Company, which people were soon calling Aramco.

[1 minute]

**Click for Page 27**



Asserting his Kingdom's right to a fair share of the oil bounty, Ibn Saud convinced Aramco to split all profits equally in 1950. Recognizing the new reality, Aramco moved its headquarters from downtown New York City to a location in Dhahran not far from the site of Lucky Number 7. That same year, the 1,200 mile (1,700 kilometers) Trans-Arabian Pipe Line (Tapline) was completed, linking the Eastern Province oil fields to Lebanon and the Mediterranean.

Six years later, Aramco officially confirmed Ghawar as the largest onshore field and the Safaniya as the largest offshore field in the world. In 1961, Aramco began processing liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) at its Ras Tanura facility. A decade later, again at Ras Tanura, Aramco opened its "Sea Island" offshore crude oil loading program.

[1 minute]

**Click for Page 28**



The discovery of commercial quantities of oil at Damman Dome on March 4, 1938 forever changed the course of Saudi history. Global geopolitics would never be the same again once the Arabian Peninsula became the epicenter for oil and gas production. By 1940, annual Saudi output surpassed the 5 million barrel mark. After World War II, production reached 60 million barrels per annum by the end of 1946. By the time King Saud died in 1953, the annual number exceeded 300 million barrels. In recent years, the *daily* production of crude oil in Saudi has exceeded 8,000,000 barrels.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 29**



In 1973, the Saudi government began a seventeen-year-long move to assume full control of its petroleum resources by purchasing a 25 percent interest in Aramco. By 1980, virtually 100 percent of Aramco's assets were owned by the Kingdom. Saudi Arabia did not nationalize or expropriate the American's assets, leaving its former partners with essentially nothing, as some governments had done. Instead, the Saudis paid a fair market price.

Aramco's previous management team continued to operate the company's assets on behalf of the Saudi government until November 1988. In that year, the Saudi Arabian Oil Company was created by royal decree and the Saudis took full operational control. The company's name was formally changed to its current moniker: Saudi Aramco.

In 1984, Saudi Aramco began operating its first four supertankers, working through its wholly owned subsidiary, Vela International. In 1989, high-quality oil and gas were discovered south of Riyadh, the first such find outside the operating area established in the 1933 concession agreement.

[1 minute, 30 seconds]

**Click for Page 30**



In 1993, Saudi Aramco took complete charge of the Kingdom's domestic refining, marketing, distribution and joint-venture refining interests. By end of the next year, maximum sustained crude-oil production capacity sat at 10 million barrels per day. In 1995, the company completed a program to build 15 crude carriers, operated by Vela.

Throughout the 1990s, Saudi Aramco pursued a steady policy of global acquisitions, expanding into Korean, Philippine and Greek markets. Throughout its expansion plans, the company works with major oil companies, like Texaco and Shell, in establishing new refineries and marketing initiatives.

[45 seconds]

**[Click for Page 31](#)**



In August 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait. Allied forces led by America moved en masse to the Arabian Peninsula in a defensive operation as Desert Shield. In January 1991, the Gulf War broke out, and Desert Shield became an offensive operation called Desert Storm. Retreating Iraqi forces set fire to Kuwait's oil fields, creating a massive economic and environmental disaster. Saudi Aramco played a major role in the response to the Gulf War oil spill, the largest in history.

[30 seconds]

**Click for Page 32**

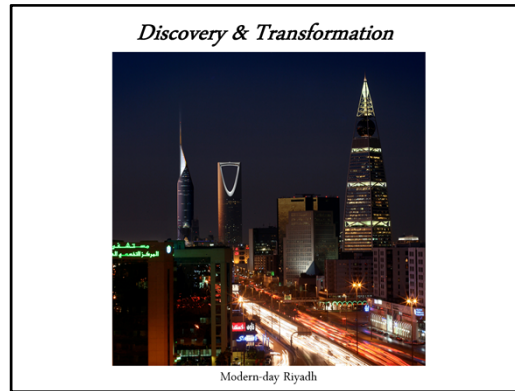


The company also formally opened the Shaybah field in the Rub' al-Khali desert, Saudi Arabia's mythic Empty Quarter. An aggressive program of upgrades and expansions for its pipelines and refineries on Saudi soil is currently being pursued. In 2000, *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* ranked Saudi Aramco first in the world among all oil companies for the eleventh straight year, judged by the country's crude oil reserves and production. A full listing of Saudi Aramco's accomplishments and initiatives would go on for pages. The clear conclusion from even a brief overview is that they are indisputably one of the great oil companies in the world.

The rich rewards of Saudi Arabia's petroleum bounty has been shared with its inhabitants. The company is directly responsible for a wide range of social, medical and educational initiatives that have transformed the country. Schools, hospitals, roads, sanitation systems, and communication systems bear witness to Saudi Aramco's commitment to the nation and people of Saudi Arabia.

[1 minute]

**Click for Page 33**

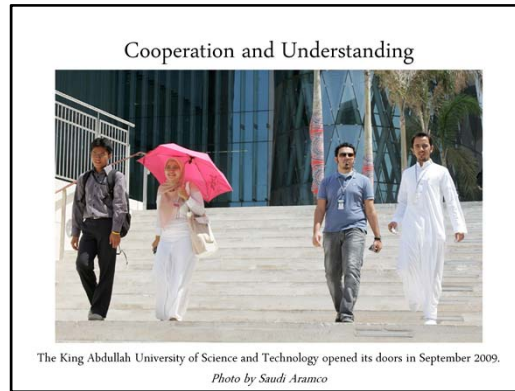


The changes engendered by the nation's oil wealth are multitudinous. Prior to the 1960s, most Saudis lived a nomadic or semi-nomadic existence. Today, over 95 percent of the population is settled. With a birth rate that well exceeds the death rate, the country has seen the median age of its people dip below 25 years. In comparison, the median age in the United States today is 35.6 years, that in Great Britain, virtually the same as in the U.S., that in China, 35.5 years.

Similarly, dramatic changes are evident in all aspects of Saudi life, from education through quality of life, through health care, through basic infrastructure, through industry. Fundamental changes industrialized nations like the United States, Germany and Great Britain underwent over a period of two centuries, Saudi Arabia has undergone in just over half a century. The two critical forces that gave impetus to these changes were ibn Saud and oil.

[1 minute]

[Click for Page 34](#)



In the spirit of progress and national development, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Saudi Aramco have launched a radical new social experiment right in the heart of a very traditional and conservative culture: KAUST – King Abdullah University of Science and Technology. Besides global aspirations of great influence, KAUST is Saudi Arabia’s flagship commitment to a shift from a resource-based economy to deepen and diversify the Kingdom’s knowledge-based economy – a new vision of the future.

[30 seconds]

**Click for Page 35**



KAUST has a three-part mission:

- Research at KAUST – both basic and goal oriented – is dedicated to advancing science and technology of regional and global impact. Research excellence inspires teaching and the training of future leaders in science and technology.
- Research and education at KAUST energize innovation and enterprise to support knowledge-based economic diversification.
- Through the synergy of science and technology, and innovation and enterprise, KAUST is a catalyst for transforming people's lives.

And with this mission statement in mind, KAUST is built on a foundation of seven core values: achievement, passion, inspiration, diversity, openness, integrity and citizenship.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 36**



King Abdullah University of Science and Technology is just the beginning of a bold experiment in the Arab world. As King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud said, “It is my desire that this new University become one of the world’s great institutions of research; that it educate and train future generations of scientists, engineers and technologists; and that it foster, on the basis of merit and excellence, collaboration and cooperation with other great research universities and the private sector... Our intention is to create an enduring model for advanced education and scientific research... In providing a strong foundation for all aspects of life and work in the University, we aim to ensure its success in promoting the economic development and social prosperity of the people of the Kingdom and the world.”

[1 minute]

**Click for Page 37**



KAUST is dedicated exclusively to post-graduate and specialized research, linking up with similar institutions all over the world. English is the official language of instruction. It is the first mixed-sex university in Saudi Arabia and women are allowed to dress as they please. This has created some heated discussions in certain circles but radical and controversial change is always a cause for distant rumblings. But with the absolute support from the highest levels of the Saudi government, KAUST is here to stay and to spread its message of change.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 38**



The co-education policies of KAUST are reflective of other changes that have occurred for Saudi women in recent years.

Captain Hanadi Zakaria al-Hindi became the first Saudi woman pilot in 2005.

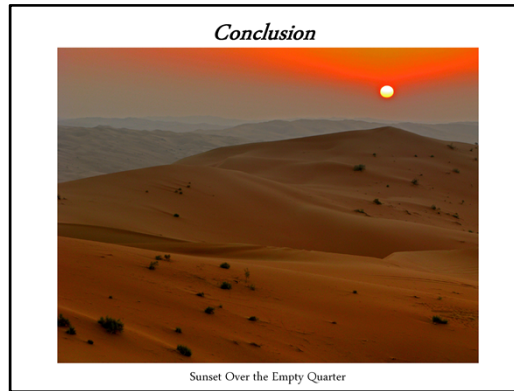
Journalist Sabria Jawhar was on the list of "World's Most Influential Arabs" by the Dubai-based magazine *Arabian Business* in 2010.

Saudi Arabian female activist and poet Nimah Ismail Nawwab was featured in the 2010 IMAX film *Arabia*.

Women now hold positions in a variety of fields in Saudi Arabia, from business to science to education, with continued opportunities for development and growth at companies like Saudi Aramco.

[45 seconds]

**Click for Page 39**



This presentation has provided a glimpse into the fascinating developments that created the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as we recognize it today. Other Speakers Bureau presentations provide a more in-depth look at the history of Saudi Arabia, the geography of Saudi Arabia, the Saudi Arabian Company (Saudi Aramco), the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, and the role of women in Saudi Arabia. We look forward to sharing these presentations with you in the future.

Thank you.

[30 seconds]

**The End**