

# LIBYA



<http://teachmideast.org/country-profiles/libya/>



# LIBYA



Muammar Gaddafi seized power as a young officer and became increasingly eccentric during his four decades in power

# LIBYA

**State of Libya**

دولة ليبيا (Arabic)



Flag



National emblem  
(de facto)

**Anthem:** ليبيا ليبيا ليبيا  
"Libya, Libya, Libya"



# LIBYA



# LIBYA

<b>Capital and largest city</b>	Tripoli <sup>[1]</sup>  32°52′N 13°11′E
<b>Official languages</b>	Arabic <sup>[b]</sup>
<b>Spoken languages</b>	Libyan Arabic Berber
<b>Minority Languages</b>	Teda Italian
<b>Ethnic groups</b>	Arab-Berber 97% 3% Others
<b>Religion</b>	Islam
<b>Demonym(s)</b>	Libyan
<b>Government</b>	Unitary provisional government
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chairman of the Presidential Council</li><li>• Prime Minister (GNA)<sup>[2]</sup></li><li>• Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council</li><li>• President of the House of Representatives</li></ul>	Fayez al-Sarraj Fayez Al-Sarraj Ahmed Maiteeq Aguila Saleh Issa
<b>Legislature</b>	House of Representatives
<b>Formation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Independence from Italy</li><li>• Released from British and French oversight<sup>[c]</sup></li><li>• Coup d'état by Muammar Gaddafi</li><li>• Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</li><li>• The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</li><li>• Revolution Day</li></ul>	10 February 1947 24 December 1951 1 September 1969 19 November 1977 April 1986 17 February 2011

<b>Area</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total</li></ul>	1,759,541 km <sup>2</sup> (679,363 sq mi) (16th)
<b>Population</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2016 estimate</li><li>• 2018 census</li><li>• Density</li></ul>	6,653,210 <sup>[3]</sup> (108th) 7,200,000 3.74/km <sup>2</sup> (9.7/sq mi) (218th)
<b>GDP (PPP)</b>	2019 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total</li><li>• Per capita</li></ul>	\$79.595 billion <sup>[4]</sup> \$12,100 <sup>[4]</sup>
<b>GDP (nominal)</b>	2019 estimate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total</li><li>• Per capita</li></ul>	\$51.330 billion <sup>[4]</sup> (98) \$7,803 <sup>[4]</sup>
<b>HDI (2017)</b>	0.706 <sup>[5]</sup> high · 108th
<b>Currency</b>	Libyan dinar (LYD)
<b>Time zone</b>	UTC+2 (EET)
<b>Driving side</b>	right
<b>Calling code</b>	+218
<b>ISO 3166 code</b>	LY
<b>Internet TLD</b>	.ly ليبيا

# LIBYA

**Libya, a mostly desert and oil-rich country with an ancient history, has more recently been known for the 42-year rule of the mercurial Colonel Muammar Gaddafi - and the chaos that has followed his departure.**



Libya was under foreign rule for centuries until it gained independence in 1951. Soon after oil was discovered and earned the country immense wealth.

Colonel Gaddafi seized power in 1969 and ruled for four decades until he was toppled in 2011 following an armed rebellion assisted by Western military intervention.

In recent years the country has been a key springboard for migrants heading for Europe, and a source of international concern over the rise of jihadist groups.

# LIBYA



**LIFE EXPECTANCY**  
75 (M) 78 (W)



**CAPITAL**  
Tripoli



**LARGEST CITY**  
Tripoli



**NATIONALITY**  
Libyan



**RELIGIONS**  
Islam

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## LIBYA OVERVIEW

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**CURRENCY**  
Libyan  
Dinar (LD)



**POPULATION**  
6,411,776



**LANGUAGES**  
Arabic, English  
Italian



**AGRICULTURE**  
Wheat, Barley, Olives, Dates  
Citrus, Vegetables, Peanuts  
Soy Beans, Cattle



**INDUSTRIES**  
Petroleum, Iron, Steel, Food  
Processing, Textiles  
Handicrafts, Cement

# LIBYA



The capital Tripoli includes a mix of ancient and modern buildings

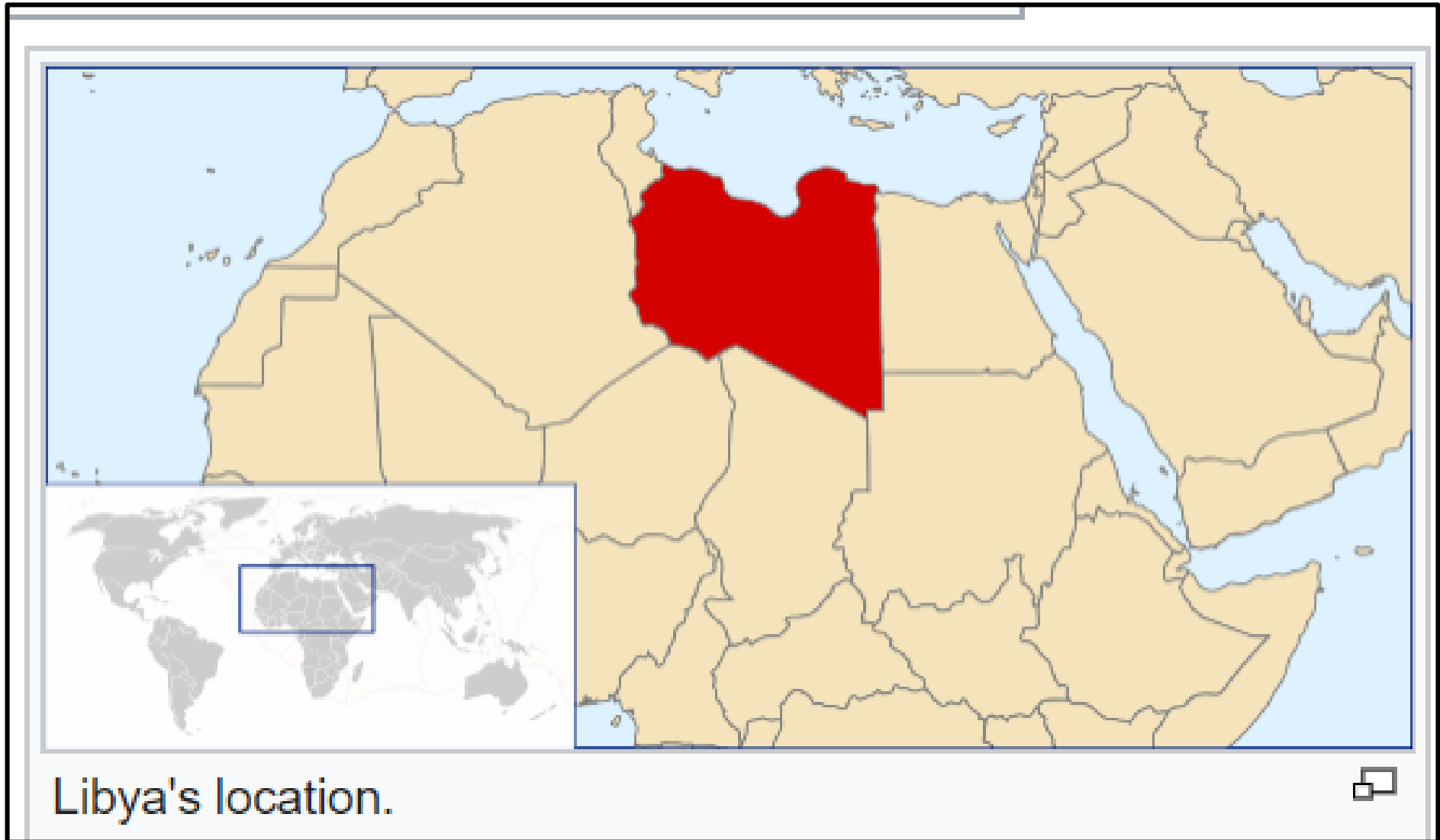


# LIBYA

## GEOGRAPHY

Libya is located in North Africa, along the Mediterranean Sea between Egypt and Tunisia. The country has an area of approximately 1,759,540 sq km (679,362 sq miles), which equates to an area slightly larger than the state of Alaska. Libya has a mild Mediterranean climate along the coast, with occasional storms and rain from October to March. In the interior of the country, however, the climate is increasingly hot and dry. Temperatures in the Sahara desert typically reach into the 50s Celsius (120s Fahrenheit) during the summer months. Libya is a flat and mostly barren country with few mountains, plateaus, and deep valleys that interrupt long stretches of desert. The Jebel Akhdar (Green Mountains) is one of the only forested areas in Libya and is located in the northeastern region of the country.

# LIBYA



Libya's location.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography\\_of\\_Libya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Libya)

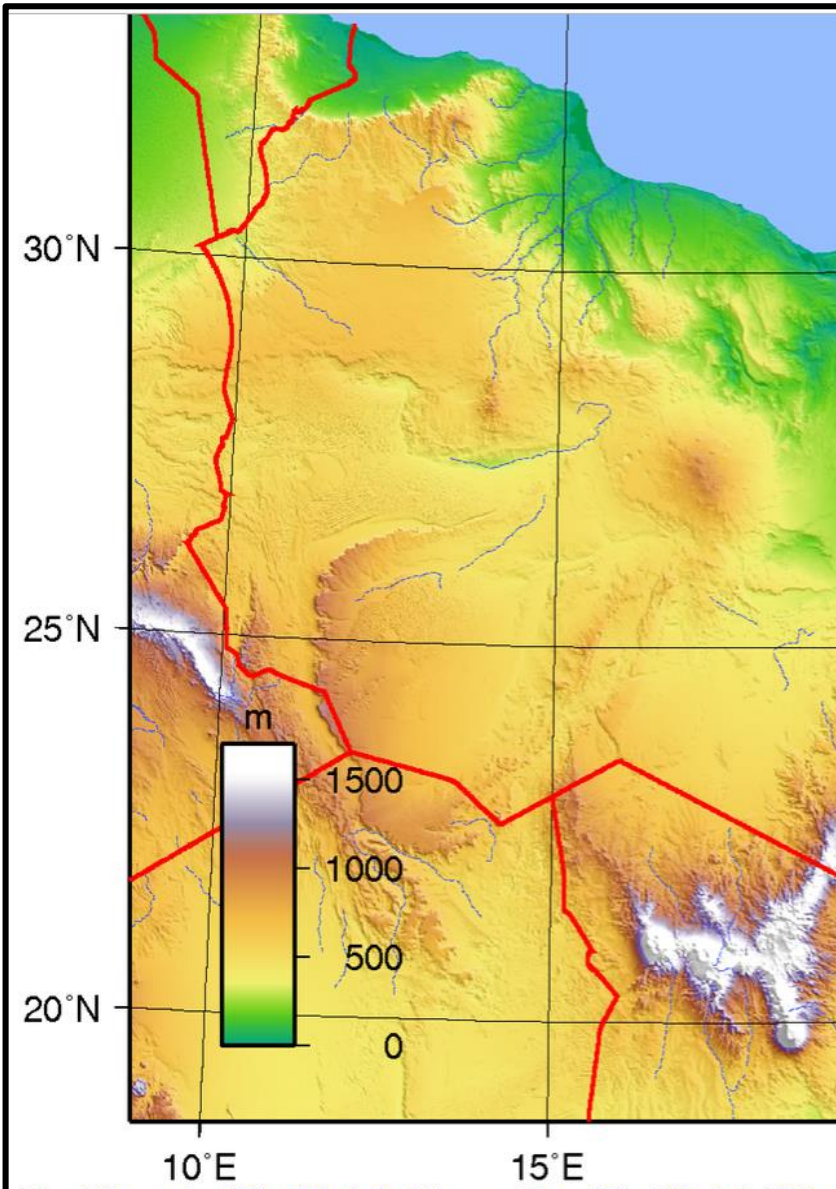
# LIBYA

The extreme heat, lack of precipitation and fresh water sources, and vast reach of the Sahara desert mean that only 1% of Libya's land is arable. Because of this, Libya is forced to import nearly 75% of its food annually. Much of this cost is offset by the sale of Libya's natural resources, which include reserves of natural gas, petroleum, and gypsum. The government buys raw sugar and grains, sells them to markets throughout the country, and subsidizes the cost to ensure prices remain stable. In the limited fertile regions along the coast, Libya has been somewhat successful in growing wheat, dates, olives, and citrus fruits.

Libya currently faces several serious environmental concerns including rapid desertification of its arable land and limited usable water reserves throughout the country. In an attempt to combat both of these problems, former Libyan dictator Muammar Gaddafi authorized the creation of the "Great Man-Made River Project" (GMRP) in 1983. The world's largest irrigation project, GMRP was described by Gaddafi as the 8th wonder of the world.

This project utilizes a system of underground pumps and pipelines to carry freshwater from massive underground aquifers in the southern end of the country to reservoirs near cities along the Mediterranean coast. The project supplies the cities of Tripoli, Benghazi, Sirte, and others with 6.5 million cubic meters of water per day. Phase three of the project was completed in 2009, with two other phases planned to link the system into one large network. However, the Libyan revolution has stalled progress on the project, and a NATO bombing campaign in 2011 destroyed one of the two pipeline manufacturing sites in Libya as it was believed to be housing weapons used by Gaddafi.





Size of this preview: 661 × 600 pixels. Other resolutions: 264 × 240 pixels | 529 ×

## Area and boundaries [\[edit\]](#)

### Area:

*Total:* 1 759 540 km<sup>2</sup>

*Land:* 1 759 540 km<sup>2</sup>

*Water:* 0 km<sup>2</sup>

**Area - comparative:** Libya is the fourth largest country in Africa, seven times the size of the [United Kingdom](#), and slightly larger than [Alaska](#).

### Land boundaries:

*Total:* 4 348 km

*Border countries:* [Algeria](#) 982 km, [Chad](#) 1,055 km, [Egypt](#) 1,115 km, [Niger](#) 354 km, [Sudan](#) 383 km, [Tunisia](#) 459 km

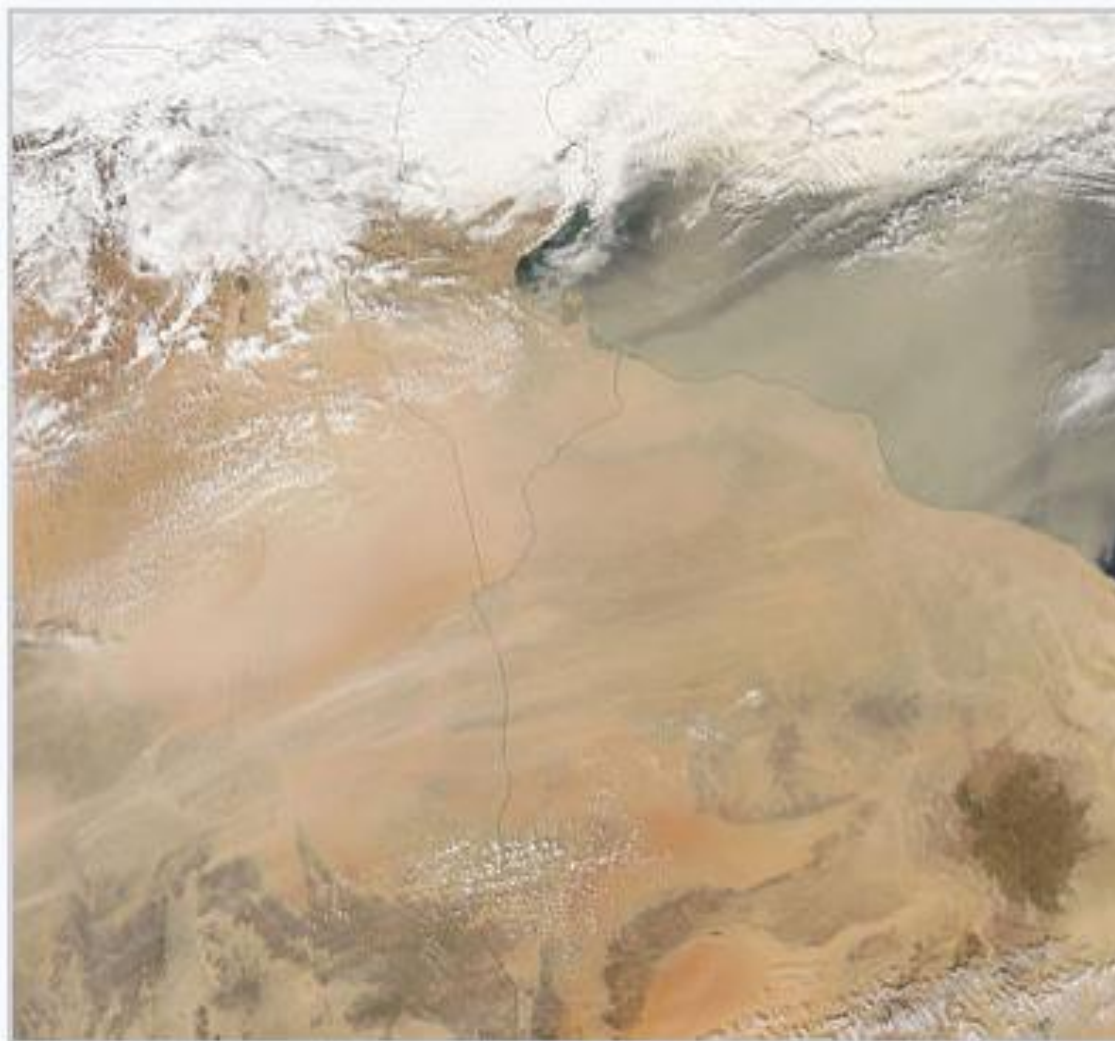
**Coastline:** 1,770 km

### Maritime claims:

*Territorial sea:* 12 nmi (22.2 km; 13.8 mi)

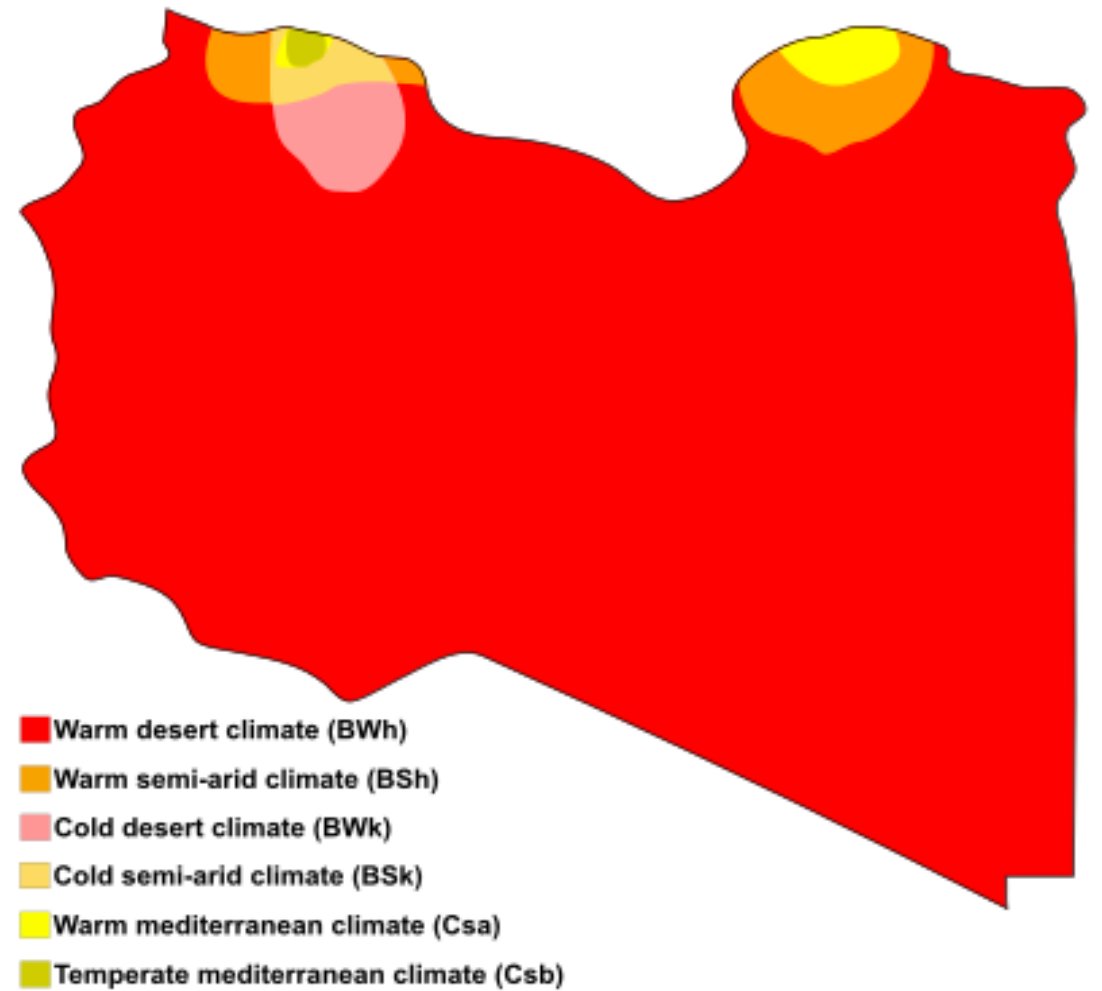
*note:* [Gulf of Sidra](#) closing line – 32 degrees, 30 minutes north.

*Exclusive economic zone:* 351,589 km<sup>2</sup> (135,749.3 sq mi)



A dust storm over the **Tripolitania** region of Libya.  
Over 90% of Libya is desert.

Libya map of Köppen climate classification



Köppen climate classification map of Libya



Wan Caza sand dunes in the Sahara Desert region of [Fezzan](#).



The [Jabal Al Akdhar](#) area. Annual rainfall averages at between 400 and 600 millimetres (15.7 and 23.6 in).<sup>[2]</sup>

# LIBYA



Snow in Bayda, Libya's third largest city



# LIBYA

## Environmental issues [edit]

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*Main article:* [Environmental issues in Libya](#)

**Natural hazards:** hot, dry, dust-laden [ghibli](#) is a southern wind lasting one to four days in spring and fall; dust storms, sandstorms

**Environment - current issues:** desertification; very limited natural fresh water resources; the [Great Manmade River](#) Project, the largest water development scheme in the world, is being built to bring water from large aquifers under the [Sahara](#) to coastal cities

**Environment - international agreements:**

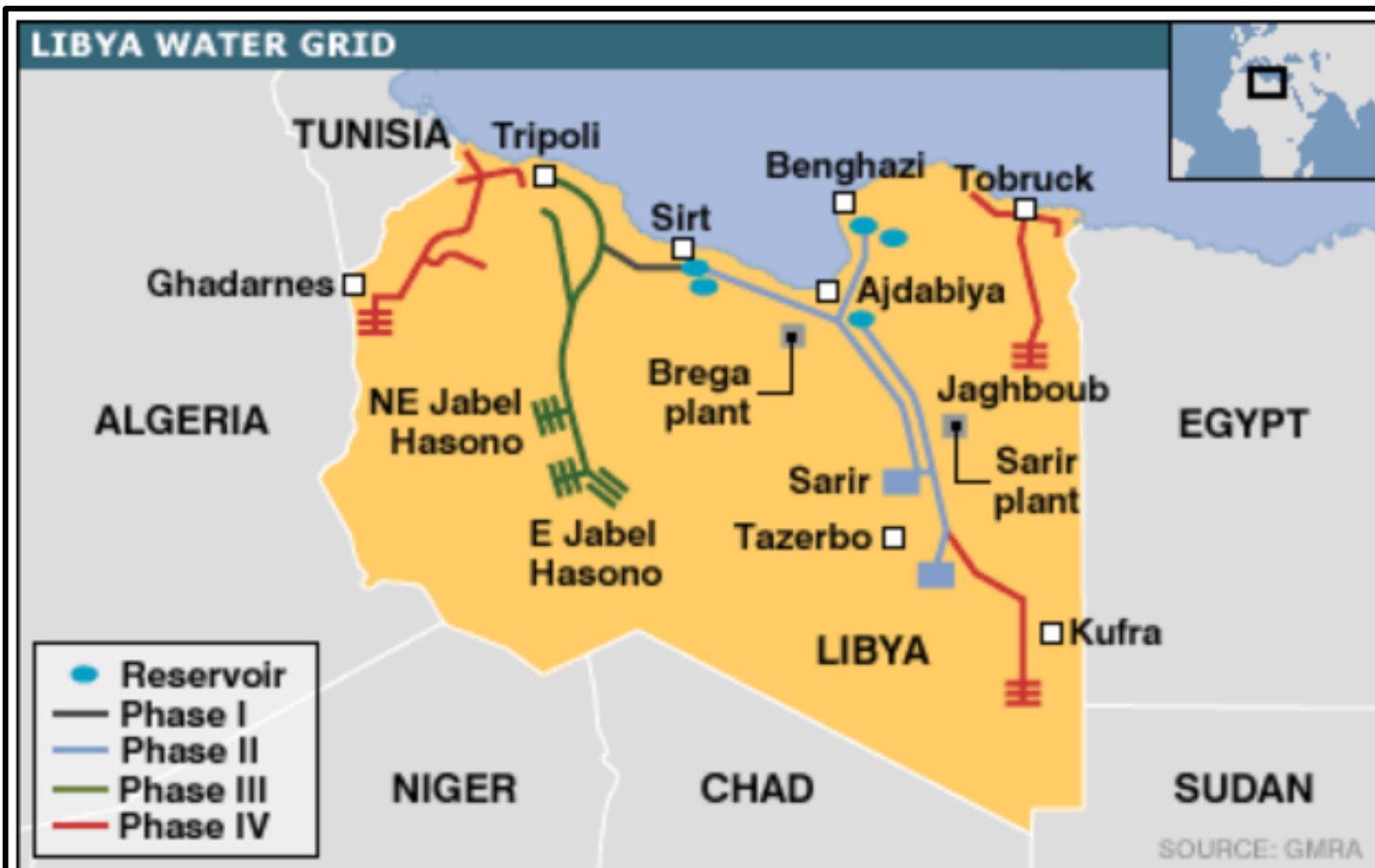
*party to:* [Biodiversity](#), [Climate Change](#), [Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol](#) [Desertification](#), [Endangered Species](#), [Hazardous Wastes](#), [Marine Dumping](#), [Ozone Layer Protection](#), [Ship Pollution](#), [Wetlands](#)

*signed, but not ratified:* [Law of the Sea](#)



The coastline of [Benghazi](#) in the [Cyrenaica](#), Libya's east. Libya has the longest [Mediterranean coastline](#) among African nations.



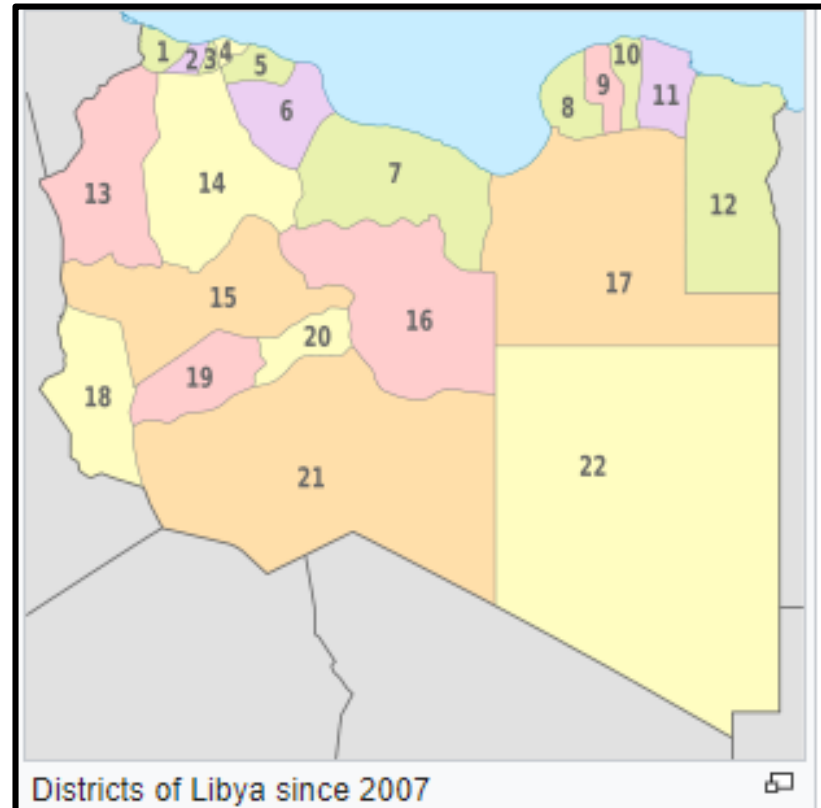


[Click here to return](#)

*Discovery on BBC World Service will be broadcasting two programmes about the Great Man-Made River Project - the first starting on Tuesday 28 March and the second on Tuesday 4 April. Please check the BBC World Service schedules for regional details*

# LIBYA

Largest cities or towns in Libya				
[1] [2] [3]				
Rank	Name	District	Pop.	
1	Tripoli	Tripoli	1,250,000	
2	Benghazi	Benghazi	700,000	
3	Misrata	Misurata	350,000	
4	Beida	Jebel el-Akhdar	250,000	
5	Khoms	Murqub	201,000	
6	Zawiya	Zawiya	200,000	
7	Ajdabiya	Al Wahat	134,000	
8	Sebha	Sebha	130,000	
9	Sirte	Sirte	128,000	
10	Tobruk	Butnan	120,000	



Districts of Libya since 2007

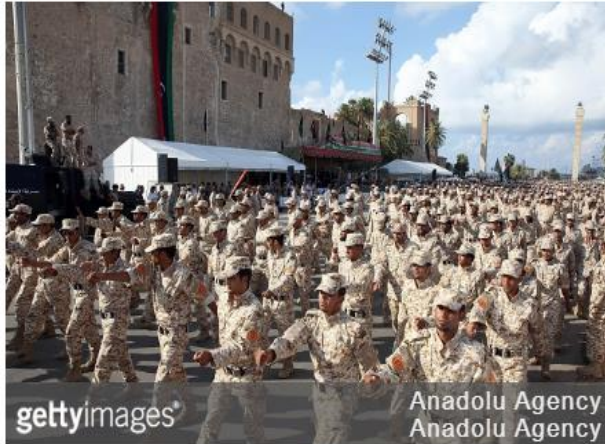
- 1. Nuqat al Khams
- 2. Zawiya
- 3. Jafara
- 4. Tripoli
- 5. Murqub
- 6. Misrata
- 7. Sirte
- 8. Benghazi

- 9. Marj
- 10. Jabal al Akhdar
- 11. Derna
- 12. Tobruk
- 13. Nalut
- 14. Jabal al Gharbi
- 15. Wadi al Shatii
- 16. Jufra

- 17. Al Wahat
- 18. Ghat
- 19. Wadi al Hayaa
- 20. Sabha
- 21. Murzuq
- 22. Kufra

# LIBYA

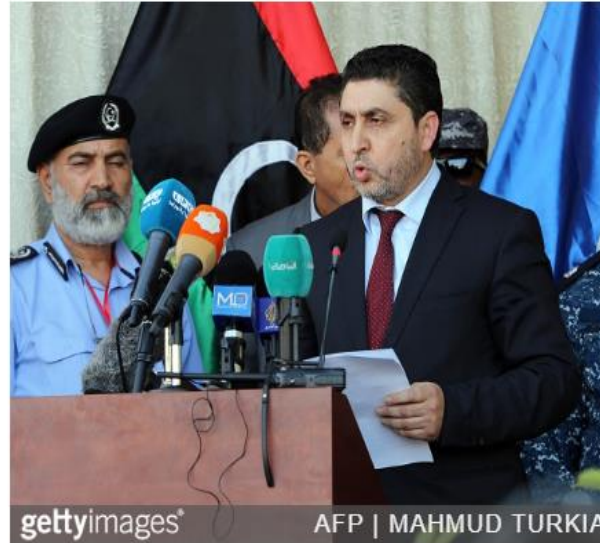
## HISTORY & GOVERNMENT



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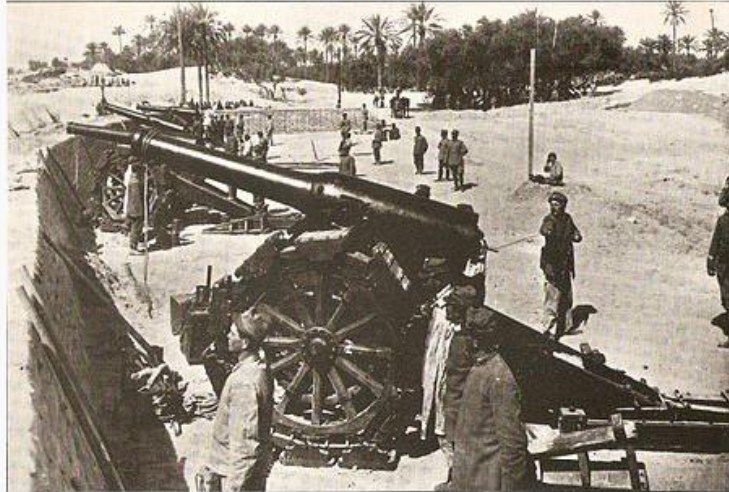
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The Berber people (self-identified as Amizigh, or free people) were among the earliest inhabitants of the region known today as Libya. The earliest confirmed indigenous tribes are believed to be the Garamantes and the Lebu, which can be traced back to roughly the year 1000 BCE. The expansion of Phoenician sea-power in the Mediterranean from 1000 BCE to 500 BCE led to the establishment of the city of Carthage in modern-day Tunisia. From here, Carthaginian influence expanded into western Libya, founding settlements which would later become the capital city of Tripoli. By 630 BCE, the Greeks expanded their influence into the eastern side of Libya and founded the city of Cyrene. Several other cities were also founded in the area of Cyrenaica including Balagrae, Apollonia, and Berenice (present-day Benghazi).





## Italo-Turkish War



Battery of Italian 149/23 cannons near Tripoli

<b>Date</b>	29 September 1911 – 18 October 1912 (1 year, 2 weeks and 5 days)
<b>Location</b>	Ottoman Tripolitania (Ottoman Libya), Aegean Sea, Eastern Mediterranean, Red Sea
<b>Result</b>	Italian victory <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annexation of Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and the Dodecanese Islands</li><li>• Start of the First Balkan War</li><li>• Start of the Libyan resistance movement</li></ul>
<b>Territorial changes</b>	Italy gains Tripolitania, Cyrenaica, Fezzan, and the Dodecanese islands

## Belligerents

 Kingdom of Italy	 Ottoman Empire
 Emirate of Asir <sup>[1]</sup>	 Senussi Order

## Commanders and leaders

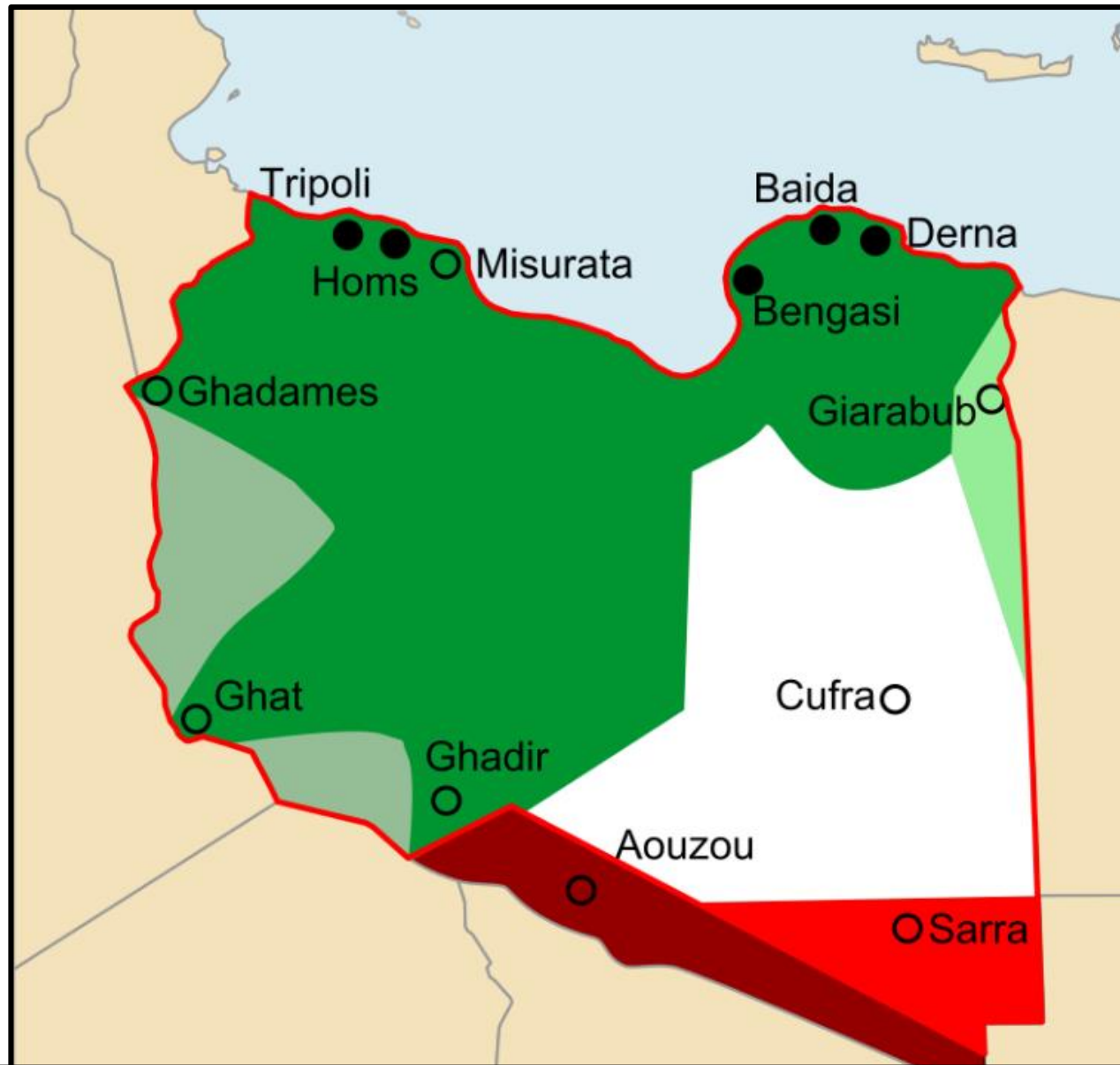
 Victor Emmanuel III	 Mehmed V
 Carlo Caneva	 Enver Pasha
 Augusto Aubry	 Mahmud Shevket Pasha
 Muhammad ibn Ali al-Idrisi	 Mustafa Kemal Bey
	 Ahmed Sharif as-Senussi

## Strength

<b>Expeditionary force:</b> <sup>[2]</sup>	<b>Initial:</b> <sup>[3]</sup>
34,000 troops	~8,000 regular Turkish troops
6,300 horses & mules	~20,000 local irregular troops
1,050 waggons	
48 field guns	
24 mountain guns	
<b>Reinforcements:</b> <sup>[3]</sup>	<b>Final:</b> <sup>[3]</sup>
85,000 troops	~40,000 Turks and Arabs

## Casualties and losses

1,432 killed in combat <sup>[4]</sup>	~14,000 casualties <sup>[6]</sup>
4,250 wounded <sup>[5]</sup>	10,000 killed in reprisals & executions <sup>[7]</sup>
1,948 died of disease <sup>[4][5]</sup>	








Expansion of Italian Libya:  territories ceded by the Ottoman Empire in 1912  territories ceded by France in 1919  Kufra District  
 conquered in 1919 and 1931<sup>[a]</sup>  territories ceded by Britain in 1926  territories ceded by Britain in 1934  territories ceded by France in 1935

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian\\_Libya#/media/File:Territorial\\_growth\\_of\\_Italian\\_Libya.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_Libya#/media/File:Territorial_growth_of_Italian_Libya.svg)

## **Governors-General of Libya** [ [edit](#) ]

- [Italo Balbo](#) 1 January 1934 to 28 June 1940
- [Rodolfo Graziani](#) 1 July 1940 to 25 March 1941
- [Italo Gariboldi](#) 25 March 1941 to 19 July 1941
- [Ettore Bastico](#) 19 July 1941 to 2 February 1943
- [Giovanni Messe](#) 2 February 1943 to 13 May 1943

Tenure	Portrait	Incumbent	Notes
<b>Italian Libya</b> ( <i>Libia Italiana</i> )			
1 January 1934 to 28 June 1940		Marshal of the Air <b>Italo Balbo</b> , Governor-General <sup>[1]</sup>	For Victor Emmanuel III
1 July 1940 to 25 March 1941		Marshal <b>Rodolfo Graziani</b> , The <b>1st Marquess of Neghelli</b> , Governor-General	For Victor Emmanuel III
25 March 1941 to 19 July 1941		General <b>Italo Gariboldi</b> , Governor-General	For Victor Emmanuel III
19 July 1941 to 2 February 1943		Marshal <b>Ettore Bastico</b> , Governor-General	For Victor Emmanuel III
2 February 1943 to 13 May 1943		General <b>Giovanni Messe</b> , Acting Governor-General	For Victor Emmanuel III



# LIBYA

With the Roman defeat of Carthage in 146 BCE, the region around Tripoli fell under the control of local kings in northern Africa. The Romans annexed the eastern region of Cyrenaica in 74 BCE, and, after several more conquests in North Africa by the Roman emperor Augustus, most of the region fell under the control of the Roman Empire. For the next four hundred years, the region experienced prosperity under Roman influence, with forums, marketplaces, and public baths proliferating in major cities. As the Roman Empire began to collapse in the 4<sup>th</sup> century CE, a group of Germanic tribes, the Vandals, swept through North Africa, burning and sacking many cities along the way. The Byzantine Empire, which had emerged out of the eastern half of the former Roman Empire, ended Vandal control of the region in the 530s through a series of military attacks, and the Byzantine Empire then held tenuous control over the region.

# LIBYA

Islamic control and conversion of the region began with the expansion of the Umayyads in the 640s. Libya and the rest of North Africa were absorbed by the Islamic Caliphate under the Umayyad dynasty and then the Abbasid dynasty in 750. This conquest began the process of "Arabization" in the region where many people began adopting the Arabic language as well as the new Islamic faith. The Arab Aghlabid emirs ruled on behalf of the Abbasids throughout the 9<sup>th</sup> century in the 960s and 970s. The Shia Fatimid dynasty under the leadership of the Caliph al-Mu'izz then conquered the region. The Fatimids found rule of Libya difficult to maintain as the predominantly Sunni people resented Shia governance. After two centuries of strained relations, the Berber Hafsids established control over the region around 1229. Named after Muhammad bin Abu Hafs, this dynasty of Berber rulers restored Sunni Islamic authority to the area and Tripoli thrived as a center for art, literature, and scholarship. This independent region, which stretched from Algeria to the western edge of Egypt, would remain under Hafsids control until 1574.

# LIBYA

During the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the coastline along North Africa, and Libya especially, became a haven for pirates such as the infamous Barbarossa. Known for his large red beard, he commanded a corsair fleet in the Mediterranean under the direction of the Ottoman sultans and helped bring much of the North African coastline into the Ottoman Empire. The Ottomans governed Libya, known then as the Vilayet (province) of Tripolitania, through a hereditary line of governors known as pashas. Their hold over the country was weak, however, and real power for the next several centuries would be vested in the elite corps of soldiers known as the janissaries, who reduced the role of the pasha to that of a figurehead. Although the area was technically part of the Ottoman Empire throughout this time, it often held virtual autonomy.

# LIBYA

As Ottoman power began to decline throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Russia and the European nations began to compete for control of the Ottoman territories and most of the African continent. This process, known as the "Scramble for Africa," resulted in the British, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Germans, Belgians, and Italians establishing colonies throughout Africa. The Italians invaded Libya in 1911 which sparked a year-long war with the Ottoman Turks over control of the country. Following their victory in 1912, the Italians established Italian North Africa, which eventually became two separate colonies known as Italian Cyrenaica and Italian Tripolitania. In the years between 1912 and 1943, nearly 150,000 Italians settled in the area. Italian rule over the country was not universally accepted, and the Libyan resistance movement suffered, by some estimates, upwards of 50,000 casualties throughout its attempts to end the Italian colonization. The Italians lost their stronghold in North Africa upon the outbreak of World War II as the Allied powers landed invasion forces along the coastline. The British and French then administered Libya as a protectorate from 1943 until its official declaration of independence on December 24, 1951.

# LIBYA

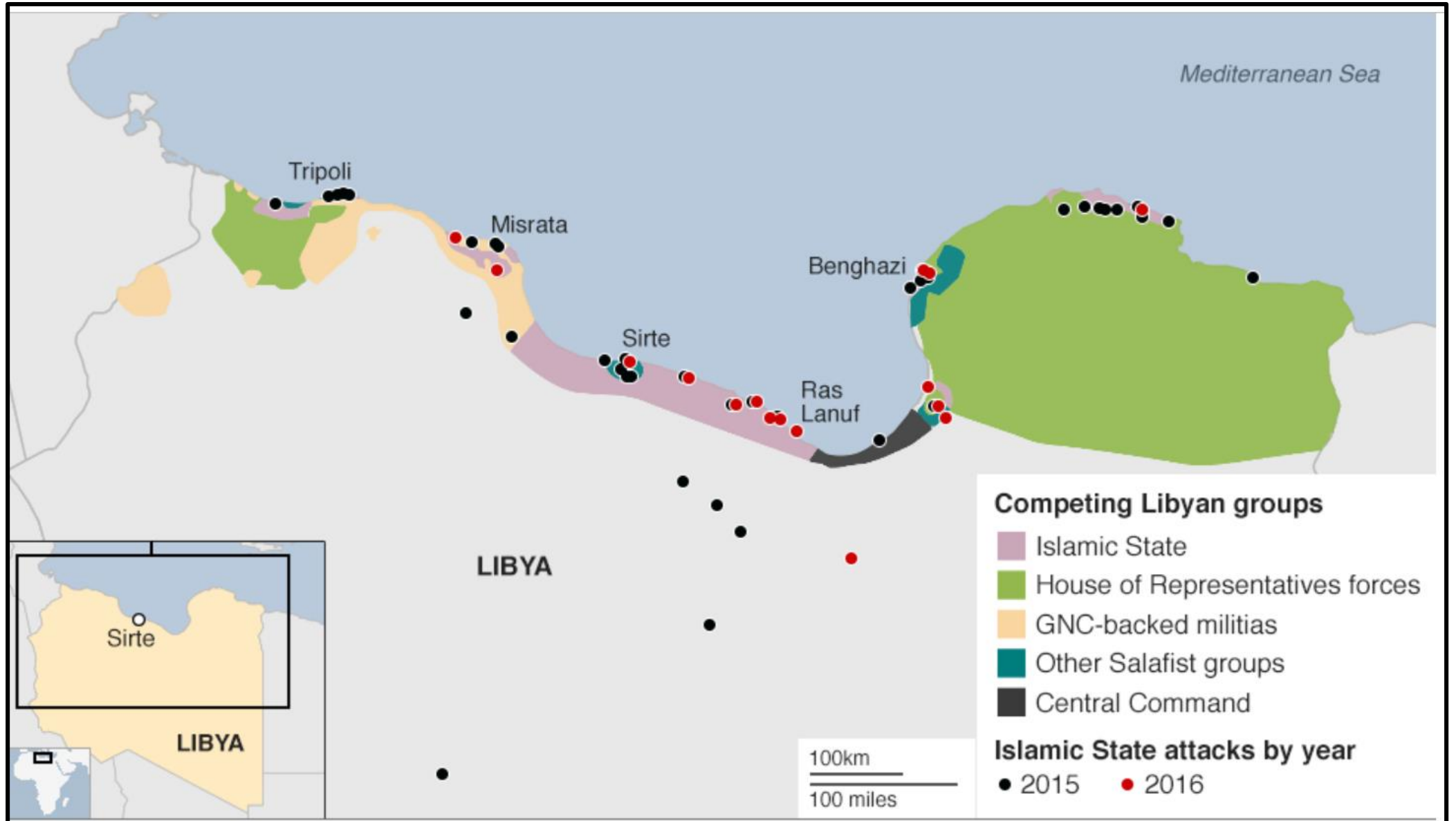
Libya became a constitutional monarchy at the end of 1951, headed by the self-proclaimed King Idris. Under his rule, the first Libyan constitution was introduced along with a large spike in government spending brought on by the discovery of substantial oil reserves in 1959. However, these revenues became a point of contention with the government as much of this new wealth stayed firmly in the hands of the king. The Libyan military became increasingly influenced by Egyptian President Nasser's Arab nationalist ideology, and a group of military officials led by Colonel Muammar Gaddafi overthrew King Idris in 1969 while he was seeking medical treatment in Turkey. Following the overthrow, Gaddafi repressed any political opposition to his rule through public executions and assassinations abroad. Though he claimed to have established democratic institutions such as the General People's Committee, all real power remained firmly in the hands of Gaddafi.

Gaddafi's regime utilized the country's oil revenues to greatly increase the standard of living for the country. Life expectancy increased by over 20 years to the age of 77 and the literacy rate rose to around 90% by the late 1970s. In 1977, Gaddafi changed the country's official name from the Libyan Arab Republic to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and steered the country into closer relations with the Soviet Union. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Gaddafi funded terrorist and paramilitary groups throughout the world and briefly attempted to buy a nuclear weapon from Pakistan and India. These actions, in addition to the repression of dissent and brief military engagements with the United States over the status of the Gulf of Sidra, damaged Libyan relations with the United States and many European countries.

# LIBYA

The Arab Spring uprisings began in Libya in February 2011. On February 27, the National Transitional Council (NTC) was established to consolidate the protesting groups into a single political voice and administer the regions which rose up in rebellion against Gaddafi. Large contingents of his army began defecting to the rebel side, and the establishment of a United Nations "no-fly zone" greatly aided the rebel cause. On October 20, 2011, rebel militias killed Gaddafi outside his hometown of Sirte, and announced victory over the previous regime three days later. The NTC facilitated the election of the Islamist transitional General National Congress (GNC) in July 2012, to which it transferred power and tasked with drafting a new constitution. Upon completion of the constitution in 2014, however, parliamentary elections were held, and the Islamists fared poorly. The GNC then reconvened in August 2014 and refused to recognize the newly-elected parliament (known as the Council of Deputies); GNC supporters seized Tripoli and forced the Council of Deputies into near-exile in Tobruk, a city near the Egyptian border. In November 2014, the Libyan Supreme Court, which is located in Tripoli, declared the Council illegal and voided the 2014 election results. Nonetheless, most countries recognize the Council as Libya's rightful government. In addition to this power struggle, in 2015, the Islamic State, Ansar-al-Sharia, and other groups took the opportunity to seize various cities and areas in Libya. Many experts believe the Libyan state is on the verge of failure. Attempts to reconcile the Tobruk and Tripoli factions have been unsuccessful as recently as February 2016 despite international efforts to facilitate peace talks.

# LIBYA



## Idris I



## King of Libya

<b>Reign</b>	24 December 1951 – 1 September 1969
<b>Premiers</b>	<b>See list</b> <span>[show]</span>
<b>Born</b>	12 March 1889 Al-Jaghbub, Ottoman Cyrenaica
<b>Died</b>	25 May 1983 (aged 94) Cairo, Egypt
<b>Burial</b>	Al-Baqi' Cemetery, Medina, Saudi Arabia
<b>Spouse</b>	Fatimah el-Sharif
<b>Full name</b>	Muhammad Idris bin Muhammad al-Mahdi as-Senussi
<b>House</b>	Senussi
<b>Father</b>	Muhammad al-Mahdi as-Senussi
<b>Mother</b>	Aisha bint Muqarrib al-Barasa
<b>Religion</b>	Sunni Islam

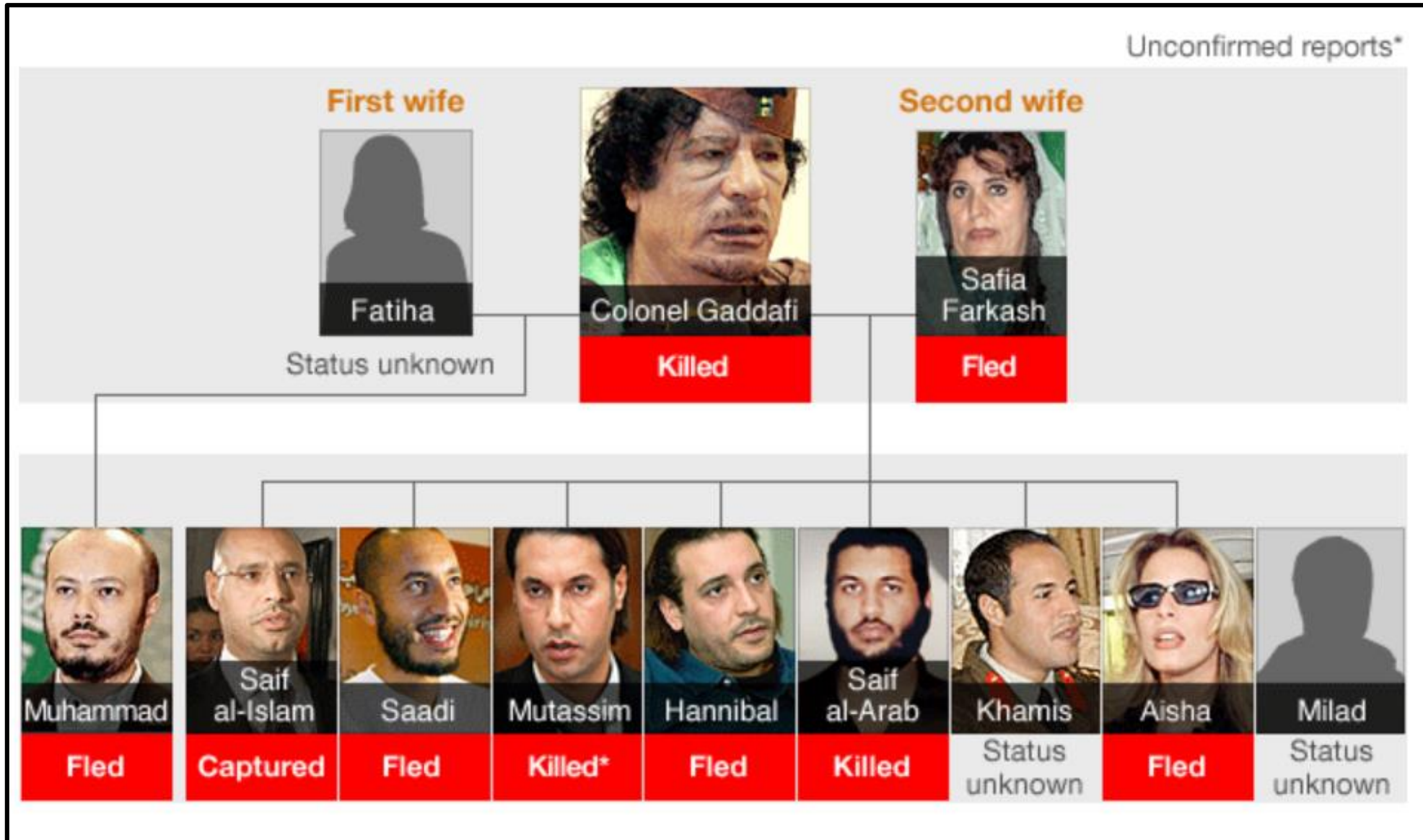




At an Arab summit in Libya in 1969, shortly after the September Revolution that toppled King Idris I and brought Colonel Mu'ammur al-Qaddafi to power. The new Libyan leader Mu'ammur al-Qaddafi sits in military uniform in the middle, surrounded by President Gamal Abd al-Nasser ...

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1969\\_Libyan\\_coup\\_d%27%C3%A9tat#/media/File:Nasser\\_Qaddafi\\_Atassi\\_1969.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1969_Libyan_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat#/media/File:Nasser_Qaddafi_Atassi_1969.jpg)

# LIBYA



# LIBYA



For many years, it was suggested he was his father's 'heir' (pictured together in 1989)

## Saif al-Islam Gaddafi

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Saif al-Islam Gaddafi - the second of Col Gaddafi's nine children - has had a far more prominent role in the Libyan political scene than his brothers or sisters.

Well-educated and a fluent English speaker, Saif al-Islam was previously viewed by the West as the reform-minded face of the Gaddafi regime.

The 38-year-old holds an MBA from Vienna University and in 2008, received a PhD from the London School of Economics (LSE).

He also runs the Gaddafi International Charity and Development Foundation.

Some saw him as his father's most-likely successor, a suggestion he played down.

He owns a house in London and has had links to British political figures as well as the royal family. He has met the Duke of York many times and is said to have visited both Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle.



Saif al-Islam is Col Gaddafi's most prominent son

## Abdullah al-Sanussi

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Intelligence chief Abdullah al-Sanussi, who is married to the sister of Col Gaddafi's wife, is one of the veteran leader's most trusted aides.

A prominent figure in Libya, Brig Gen Sanussi held various roles during Gaddafi's tenure, including deputy chief of the external security organisation.

He is also said to be a close adviser to Saif al-Islam, according to leaked US embassy documents.

He has been accused in the past of human rights abuses, including his implication in the massacre in 1996 of more than 1,000 inmates at the Abu Salim prison in Tripoli.

He has been unable to travel abroad since he was convicted in absentia in 1999 by France for his role in the bombing of a French UTA passenger plane in 1989.



Abdullah al-Sanussi has been accused of ordering the killing of protesters and recruiting mercenaries

# LIBYA

**7th century BC** - Phoenicians settle in Tripolitania in western Libya, which was hitherto populated by Berbers.

**4th century BC** - Greeks colonise Cyrenaica in the east of the country, which they call Libya.

**74 BC** - Romans conquer Libya.

**AD 643** - Arabs conquer Libya and spread Islam.

**16th century** - Libya becomes part of the Ottoman Empire, which joins the three provinces of Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and Fezzan into one regency in Tripoli.

**1911-12** - Italy seizes Libya from the Ottomans. Omar al-Mukhtar begins 20-year insurgency against Italian rule.

**1942** - Allies oust Italians from Libya, which is then divided between the French and the British.

**1951** - Libya becomes independent under King Idris al-Sanusi.

**1969** - Muammar Gaddafi, aged 27, deposes the king in a bloodless military coup.

**1992** - UN imposes sanctions on Libya over the bombing of a PanAm airliner over the Scottish town of Lockerbie in December 1988.

**2011** - Violent protests break out in Benghazi and spread to other cities. This leads to civil war, foreign intervention and eventually the ouster and killing of Gaddafi.

**2016** - Following years of conflict, a new UN-backed "unity" government is installed in a naval base in Tripoli. It faces opposition from two rival governments and a host of militias.

# LIBYA



GETTY IMAGES

The eastern city of Benghazi has been much fought-over during the last few years

# History of Libya



Prehistory	
Ancient history	pre-146 BC
Roman era	to 640 AD
Islamic rule	640–1510
Spanish rule	1510–1530
Order of Saint John	1530–1551
Ottoman Tripolitania	1551–1911
Italian colonization	1911–1934
Italian Libya	1934–1943
Allied occupation	1943–1951
Kingdom of Libya	1951–1969
Libya under Muammar Gaddafi	1969–2011
First Civil War	2011
National Transitional Council	2011–2012
General National Congress	2012–2014
House of Representatives	2014–present
Second Civil War	2014–present
Government of National Accord	2016–present



# LIBYA

**74 BC** - Romans conquer Libya.

**AD 643** - Arabs under Amr Ibn al-As conquer Libya and spread Islam.

**16th century** - Libya becomes part of the Ottoman Empire, which joins the three provinces of Tripolitania, Cyrenaica and Fezzan into one regency in Tripoli.

## Italian rule

**1911-12** - Italy seizes Libya from the Ottomans. Omar al-Mukhtar begins 20-year insurgency against Italian rule.

**1920s** - Libyan resistance grows as Senussi dynasty joins in alongside the Mukhtar campaign.

**1931** - Italy breaks resistance through combination of major armed operations and concentration camps for rebel population. Al-Mukhtar is captured and executed.

**1934** - Italy unites the provinces as the colony of Libya and steps up Italian migration as part of an eventual plan for the incorporation of Libya into a Greater Italy.

**1942** - Allies oust Italians from Libya, which is then divided between the French, who administer Fezzan, and the British, who control Cyrenaica and Tripolitania.

**1951** - Libya becomes independent under King Idris al-Sanusi.

**1956** - Libya grants two American oil companies a concession of some 14 million acres.

**1961** - King Idris opens a 104-mile pipeline, which links important oil fields in the interior to the Mediterranean Sea and makes it possible to export Libyan oil for the first time.

## The Gaddafi era

**1969** - King Idris deposed in military coup led by Col Muammar Gaddafi, who pursues a pan-Arab agenda by attempting to form mergers with several Arab countries, and introduces state socialism by nationalising most economic activity, including the oil industry.

# LIBYA



Colonel Gaddafi deposed the king in 1969 and ruled until he was killed in 2011

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-13/5489/>

# A

**1970** - Libya orders the closure of a British airbase in Tobruk and the giant US Wheelus air force base in Tripoli; property belonging to Italian settlers nationalised.

**1971** - National referendum approves proposed Federation of Arab Republics (FAR) comprising Libya, Egypt and Syria. However, the FAR never takes off.

**1973** - Col Gaddafi declares a "cultural revolution", which includes the formation of "people's committees" in schools, hospitals, universities, workplaces and administrative districts; Libyan forces occupy Aozou Strip in northern Chad.

**1977** - Col Gaddafi declares a "people's revolution", changing the country's official name from the Libyan Arab Republic to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and setting up "revolutionary committees" - heralding the start of institutionalised chaos, economic decline and general arbitrariness.

**1980** - Libyan troops intervene in civil war in northern Chad.

## Confrontation with the US

**1981** - US shoots down two Libyan aircraft which challenged its warplanes over the Gulf of Sirte, claimed by Libya as its territorial water.

**1984** - UK breaks off diplomatic relations with Libya after a British policewoman is shot dead outside the Libyan embassy in London while anti-Gaddafi protests were taking place.

**1986** - US bombs Libyan military facilities, residential areas of Tripoli and Benghazi, killing 101 people, and Gaddafi's house, killing his adopted daughter. US says raids were in response to alleged Libyan involvement in bombing of Berlin disco frequented by US military personnel.

## Lockerbie plane bombing

**1988** December - Lockerbie bombing - an airliner is blown up over the Scottish town of Lockerbie, allegedly by Libyan agents.

**1989** - Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia form the Arab Maghreb Union.

**1992** - UN imposes sanctions on Libya in an effort to force it to hand over for trial two of its citizens suspected of involvement in the Lockerbie bombing.

**1995** - Gaddafi expels some 30,000 Palestinians in protest at the Oslo accords between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel.

**1999** - Lockerbie suspects handed over for trial in the Netherlands under Scottish law; UN sanctions suspended; diplomatic relations with UK restored.

**2000** September - Dozens of African immigrants are killed by Libyan mobs in the west of Libya who were said to be angry at the large number of African labourers coming into the country.

### Lockerbie sentence

**2001** 31 January- Special Scottish court in the Netherlands finds one of the two Libyans accused of the Lockerbie bombing, Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi, guilty and sentences him to life imprisonment. Megrahi's co-accused, Al-Amin Khalifa Fahimah, is found not guilty and freed.

**2001** May - Libyan troops help to quell a coup attempt against President Ange-Felix Patasse of the Central African Republic.

**2002** January - Libya and the US say they have held talks to mend relations after years of hostility over what the Americans termed Libya's sponsorship of terrorism.

**2002** 14 March - The Libyan man found guilty of the Lockerbie bombing, Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi, loses his appeal against the conviction and begins a life sentence of at least 20 years.

### Compensation

**2003** January - Libya is elected chairman of the UN Human Rights Commission despite opposition from the US and human rights groups.

**2003** August - Libya signs a deal worth \$2.7bn to compensate families of the Lockerbie bombing victims. Libya takes responsibility for the bombing in a letter to the UN Security Council.

**2003** September - UN Security Council votes to lift sanctions.



**2003** December - Libya says will abandon programmes to develop weapons of mass destruction.

**2004** January - Libya agrees to compensate families of victims of 1989 bombing of French passenger aircraft over Sahara.

**2004** March - British Prime Minister Tony Blair visits, the first such visit since 1943.

## Return to respectability

**2004** May - Five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor are sentenced to death having been accused of deliberately infecting some 400 children with HIV. They are eventually freed under a deal with the EU.

**2004** August - Libya agrees to pay \$35m to compensate victims of the bombing of a Berlin nightclub in 1986.

**2005** January - Libya's first auction of oil and gas exploration licences heralds the return of US energy companies for the first time in more than 20 years.

**2006** February - At least 10 people are killed in clashes with police in Benghazi, part of a wave of international protests by Muslims who are angered by a Danish newspaper's cartoon depictions of the Prophet Muhammad.

**2006** May - The US says it is restoring full diplomatic ties with Libya.

**2008** January - Libya takes over one-month rotating presidency of the UN Security Council in a step back to respectability after decades as a pariah of the West.

**2008** August - Libya and US sign agreement committing each side to compensate all victims of bombing attacks on the other's citizens.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi apologises to Libya for damage inflicted by Italy during the colonial era and signs a five billion dollar investment deal by way of compensation.

**2008** September - US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice makes historic visit - the highest-level US visit to Libya since 1953. Ms Rice says relations between the US and Libya have entered a "new phase".

**2009** February - Gaddafi elected chairman of the African Union by leaders meeting in Ethiopia. Sets out ambition of "United States of Africa" even embracing the Caribbean.

**2009** June - Gaddafi pays first state visit to Italy, Libya's former colonial ruler and now its main trading partner.

# LIBYA

## Al-Megrahi released

**2009** August - Lockerbie bomber Abdelbaset Ali al-Megrahi is freed from gaol in Scotland on compassionate grounds and returned to Libya. His release and return to a hero's welcome causes a storm of controversy.

**2010** January - Russia agrees to sell Libya weapons in a deal worth \$1.8bn. The deal is thought to include fighter jets, tanks and air defence systems.

**2010** June - UN refugee agency UNHCR expelled.

BP confirms it is about to begin drilling off Libyan coast.

**2010** October - European Union and Libya sign agreement designed to slow illegal migration.

## Anti-Gaddafi uprising

**2011** February - Inspired by revolts in other Arab countries, especially neighbouring Egypt and Tunisia, violent protests break out in Benghazi, spread to other cities, leading to escalating clashes between security forces and anti-Gaddafi rebels.

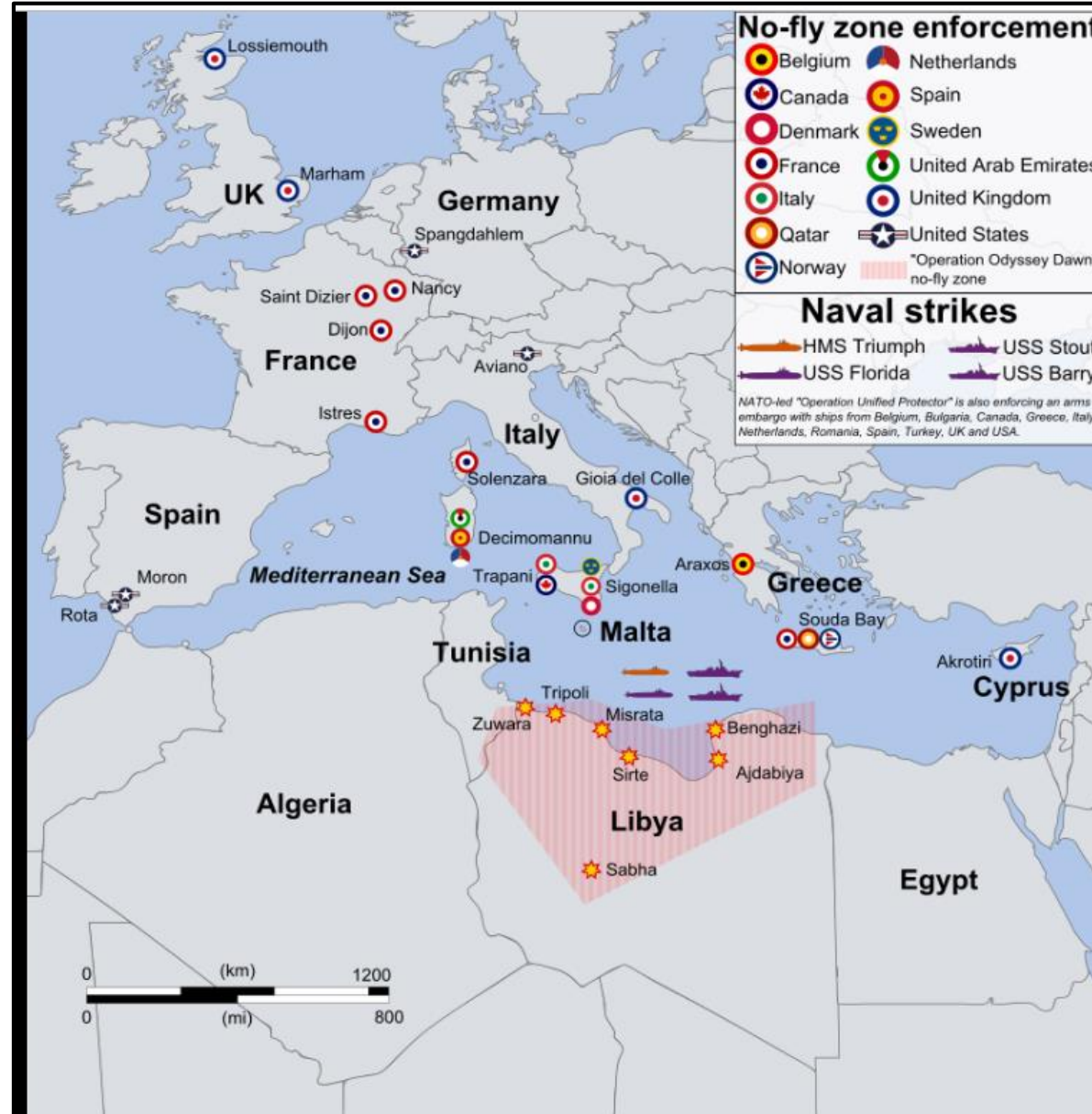
**2011** March - UN Security Council authorises a no-fly zone over Libya and air strikes to protect civilians, over which NATO assumes command.

Libyan rebels initially capture territory but are then forced back by better-armed pro-Gaddafi forces.

**2011** July - The international Contact Group on Libya formally recognises the main opposition group, the National Transitional Council (NTC), as the legitimate government of Libya.

**2011** August - Col Gaddafi goes into hiding after rebels swarm into his fortress compound in Tripoli.

# LIBYA





**2011** August-September - African Union joins 60 countries which have recognised the NTC as the new Libyan authority.

**2011** 20 October - Col Gaddafi is captured and killed as rebel fighters take his hometown Sirte. Three days later, the NTC declares Libya to be officially "liberated" and announces plans to hold elections within eight months.

**2011** November - Saif al-Islam, the fugitive son of former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, is captured, becoming the last key Gaddafi family member to be seized or killed.



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**2012** January-March - Clashes erupt between former rebel forces in Benghazi in sign of discontent with the NTC. Benghazi-based NTC officials campaign to re-establish autonomy for the region, further increasing tension with the NTC in Tripoli.

**2012** August - Transitional government hands power to the General National Congress, which was elected in July.

## Benghazi attack

**2012** September - US ambassador and three other Americans are killed when Islamist militants, including Ansar al-Sharia, storm the consulate in Benghazi.



**2013** August - Petroleum Facilities Guard militia begins blockade of oil export terminals.

## Civil war

**2014** February - Protests erupt in response to the General National Congress refusal to disband after mandate expires.

**2014** April - Petroleum Facilities Guard militia lifts closure of two oil terminals.

**2014** May - "Libyan National Army" renegade general Khalifa Haftar launches military assault including airstrikes against militant Islamist groups in Benghazi; tries to seize parliament building, accusing Prime Minister Ahmed Maiteg of being in thrall to Islamist groups.

**2014** June - Prime Minister Maiteg resigns after supreme court rules his appointment illegal.

New parliament chosen in elections marred by a low turn-out attributed to security fears and boycotts; Islamists suffer heavy defeat. Fighting breaks out between forces loyal to outgoing GNC and new parliament.

**2014** July - UN staff pull out, embassies shut, foreigners evacuated as security situation deteriorates. Tripoli international airport is largely destroyed by fighting.

Ansar al-Sharia seizes control of most of Benghazi.

General National Congress  
المؤتمر الوطني العام  
Agraw Amuran Amatay  
ⵓⵔⵓⵎⵉⵔ ⵏ ⵓⵎⵓⵔⵉⵔ ⵏ ⵙⵓⵔⵉⵎⵓⵏ



#### Type

Type Unicameral

#### History

**Founded** 8 August 2012<sup>[1][2]</sup>

25 August 2014

**Disbanded** 4 August 2014

1 April 2016

#### Leadership

**President** Mohammed Magariaf (2012–13)  
Nouri Abusahmain<sup>[3]</sup> (2013–16)

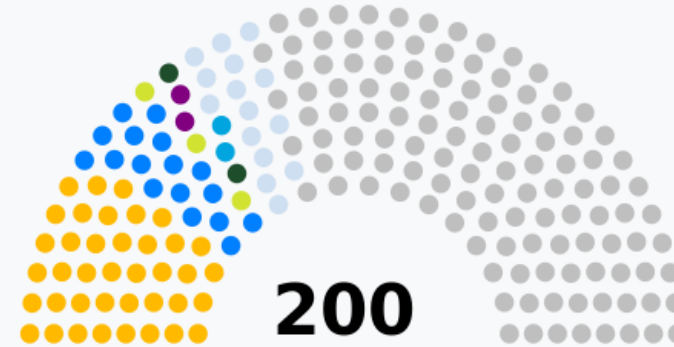
**Deputy presidents** First Deputy:

- Giuma Ahmed Atigha (2012–13)
- Ezzidine Mohammed Al-Awami<sup>[4]</sup> (2013–2014)
- Saleh Makhzoum (2014–16)

Second Deputy:

#### Structure

Seats 200



#### Political groups

- National Forces Alliance (39)
- Justice and Construction (17)
- National Front (3)
- Union for the Homeland (2)
- National Centrist (2)
- Wadi Al-Hayah (2)
- Other parties/blocs (15)
- Independents (120)<sup>[6]</sup>

#### Elections

**Voting system** Parallel voting; 80 seats through party-list proportional representation and 120 seats through multiple-member districts

**Last election** 7 July 2012

#### Meeting place

Al Nasr Convention Centre  
Tripoli, Libya

## House of Representatives

مجلس النواب  
*Majlis al-Nuwaab*



### History

**Founded** 4 August 2014

### Leadership

**President** [Aguila Saleh Issa](#)<sup>[1]</sup>,  
[Independent](#)  
since 5 August 2014

**Interim  
President** [al-Sadiq al-Kehili](#)<sup>[2]</sup>  
since 5 May 2019

**Vice-  
Presidents** [Imhemed Shaib](#)  
[Ahmed Huma](#)  
since 5 August 2014

**Rapporteur** [Musaab al-Abed](#)<sup>[2]</sup>  
since 5 May 2019

**spokesperson** [Hamouda Sayala](#)<sup>[2]</sup>  
since 5 May 2019

**Seats** 200

## Elections

**Voting system** Parallel voting; 40 seats through first-past-the-post in single-member constituencies, 80 seats through [single non-transferable vote](#) in 29 multi-member constituencies, and 80 seats through [proportional representation](#)

**Last election** [25 June 2014](#)

## Meeting place

[Dar al-Salam Hotel](#)  
[Tobruk, Libya](#);<sup>[3]</sup>  
[Rixos al-Nasr Hotel](#)  
[Tripoli, Libya](#)<sup>[4]</sup>

## Islamic State intervenes

**2014** October - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visits to continue UN-brokered talks between the new parliament and government based in Tobruk and Islamist Libya Dawn militias holding Tripoli. UN says 100,000s displaced by clashes.

Islamic State extremist militia seizes control of port of Derna in eastern Libya.

**2015** January - Libyan army and Tripoli-based militia alliance declare partial ceasefire after UN-sponsored talks in Geneva.

**2015** February - Egyptian jets bomb Islamic State targets in Derna, a day after the group there released a video showing the beheading of 21 Egyptian Christians.

Libyan Army offensive to retake Derna in March fails to dislodge the group. IS establishes control over port-city of Sirte, halfway along coast between Tripoli and Benghazi.

**2015** July - A Tripoli court sentences Gaddafi's sons Saif al-Islam and eight other former officials to death for crimes committed during the 2011 uprising against his father. He is later freed by an armed group.

**2016** January - UN announces new, Tunisia-based interim government, but neither Tobruk nor Tripoli parliaments agree to recognise its authority.

Islamic State group attacks Ras Lanuf oil terminal, threatens to move on to Brega and Tobruk.

# LIBYA

## Rise of General Haftar

**2016** March - New UN-backed Government of National Accord arrives in Tripoli by boat after opposing forces block airspace.

**2016** April - UN staff return to Tripoli after absence of nearly two years.



Khalifa Haftar has featured prominently in the post Gaddafi conflict and has been seen as a leader of the east

**2016** September - Libyan National Army of Khalifa Haftar seizes key oil export terminals in the east.

**2016** December - Pro-government forces oust Islamic State militants from coastal town of Sirte, which they had seized 18 months previously.

**2017** July - Islamic State group ejected from Benghazi after three years of fighting.

**2018** July - Khalifa Haftar claims that his forces are fully in control of Derna, the last Islamist stronghold in the east and the only city in the region hitherto outside his control.

**2018** September - Libya's UN-backed government declares a state of emergency in Tripoli, after dozens of people are killed in clashes between rival militia groups in the city's southern suburbs.

**2019** April - The Haftar Libyan National Army advances on Tripoli, sparking clashes with the forces of the internationally-recognised Government of National Accord.





# LIBYA

## Kepala Negara Libya (1951-Sekarang)

Berkuasa	Gambar	Penguasa	Catatan	
<b>Kerajaan Libya</b>				
المملكة الليبية ( <i>Al-Mamlakat al-Lībiyya</i> )				
24 Desember 1951 - 1 September 1969		Yang Mulia <b>Raja Idris I</b>	Raja Libya pertama dan satu-satunya; Digulingkan lewat <i>kudeta</i>	
Periode Jabatan	Gambar	Pejabat	Afiliasi	Catatan
<b>Republik Arab Libya</b>				
الجمهورية العربية الليبية ( <i>Al-Jumhuriyya al-`Arabiyyah al-Lībiyya</i> )				
1 September 1969 - 2 Maret 1977		Kolonel <b>Muammar Gaddafi</b> , Ketua Dewan Komando Revolusioner	Mil/ASU	
<b>Jamahiriya Arab Libya</b>				
الجمهورية العربية الليبية الشعبية الاشتراكية العظمى ( <i>Al-Jamāhīriyya al-`Arabiyya al-Lībiyya aš-Ša'biyya al-İštirākīyya al-`Uẓmā</i> )				
2 Maret 1977 - 2 Maret 1979		Kolonel <b>Muammar Gaddafi</b> , Sekretaris Jenderal <b>Kongres Rakyat Umum</b>	Mil/n-p	Digulingkan lewat perang saudara Libya. Melakukan perlawanan hingga ia terbunuh pada 20 October 2011
2 Maret 1979 - 23 Agustus 2011		Kolonel <b>Muammar Gaddafi</b> , Pemimpin Persaudaraan dan Penuntun Revolusi		

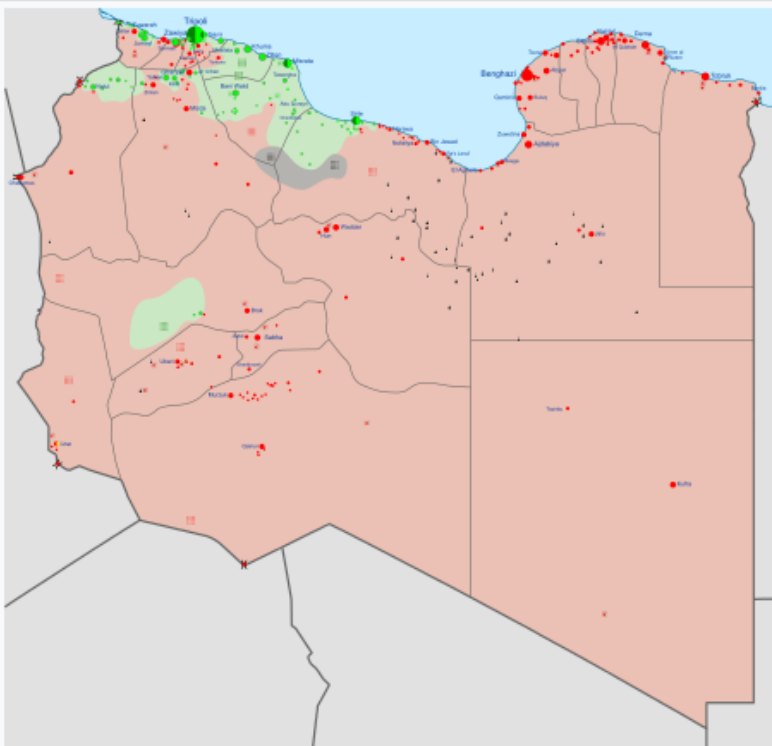


# LIBYA

<b>Dewan Transisi Nasional</b>				
المجلس الوطني الانتقالي ( <i>Al-Majlis al-Waṭanī al-Intiqālī</i> )				
5 Maret 2011 - 8 Agustus 2012		<b>Mustafa Abdul al-Jalil</b> , Ketua Dewan Transisi Nasional	n-p	
<b>Kongres Nasional Umum</b>				
المؤتمر الوطني العام ( <i>al-Mu'tamar al-Waṭanī al-'āmm</i> )				
8 Agustus 2012 - 9 Agustus 2012		<b>Mohammed Ali Salim</b> , Pejabat Presiden Kongres Nasional Umum	n-p	Kepala negara simbolis untuk penyerahan kekuasaan dari NTC
9 Agustus 2012 - 9 Januari 2013		<b>Mohammed al-Magariaf</b> , Presiden Kongres Nasional Umum	NFP	
<b>Libya</b>				
دولة ليبيا ( <i>Dawlat Libya</i> )				
9 Januari 2013 - 28 Mei 2013		<b>Mohammed al-Magariaf</b> , Presiden Kongres Nasional Umum	NFP	Mengundurkan diri untuk mematuhi UU Isolasi Politik yang disahkan oleh GNC pada 14 Mei 2013.
28 Mei 2013 - 25 Juni 2013		<b>Giuma Ahmed Atigha</b> , Pejabat Presiden Kongres Nasional Umum	n-p	
25 Juni 2013 - sekarang		<b>Nouri Abusahmain</b> , Presiden Kongres Nasional Umum	n-p	Presiden Berber pertama Libya.






## Second Libyan Civil War

Part of the Arab Winter and the Libyan Crisis



Military situation in Libya on 9 April 2019

Military situation in Libya on 9 April 2019

-  Under the control of the **Tobruk-led Government and Libyan National Army (LNA)**
-  Under the control of the **Government of National Accord and UN and Internationally recognized Allies**
-  Under the control of the **National Salvation Government**
-  Under the control of the **Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)**
-  **Controlled by local forces**

(For a more detailed 2019 map, see [military situation in the Libyan Civil War](#))

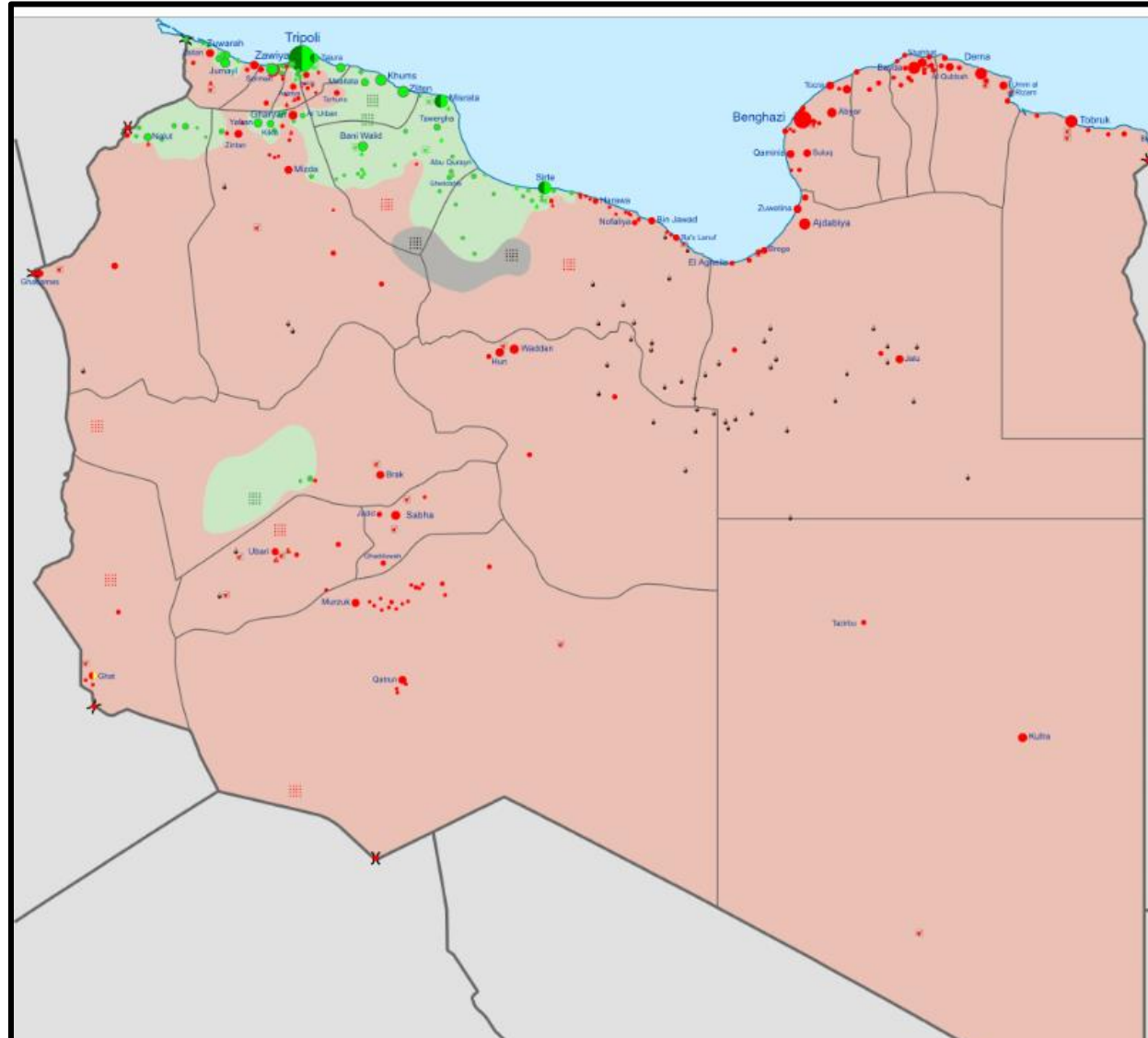
**Date** 16 May 2014 – present  
(5 years, 5 months, 2 weeks and 4 days)

**Location** Libya

**Status** Ongoing

- As of April 2019 the **Tobruk government** controls the entire eastern **Cyrenaica** region of the country as well as most of southern **Fezzan** region and **Tripolitania** region. The **Government of National Accord** controls part of the coastal **Tripolitania** region while forces loyal to the **National Salvation Government** have a presence in **Tripoli**, **Misrata**, and **Sirte**.

# Wilayah Perang Sipil Januari 2019



Areas of control in the [Civil War](#), updated 18 January 2019: [Tobruk-led Government of National Accord](#) [Petroleum Facilities Guard](#) [Tuareg](#) tribes Local forces

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Libya#/media/File:Libyan\\_Civil\\_War.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Libya#/media/File:Libyan_Civil_War.svg)

# LIBYA



GETTY IMAGES

The ancient city of Sabratha prospered under the Romans. It is one of numerous historic sites to be seen in Libya

# LIBYA

The migrants, who are being transferred on a voluntary basis, will be staying at Gashura transit centre [↗](#), about 55km (34 miles) south of the capital, Kigali.



UNCHR

The migrants going to Rwanda are doing so on a voluntary basis

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/ce1qrvle1mt/libya>

# LIBYA

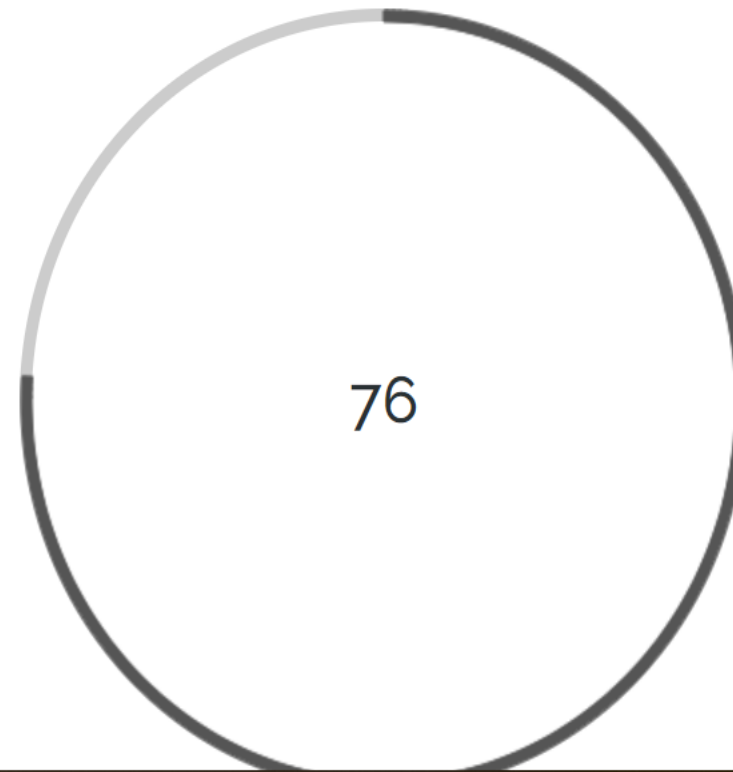
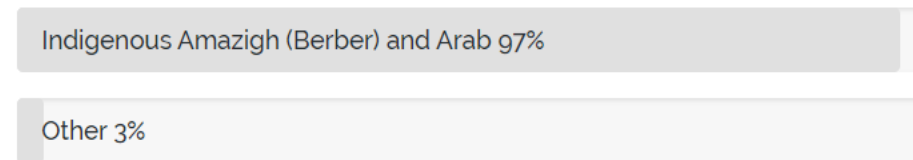
## SOCIETY



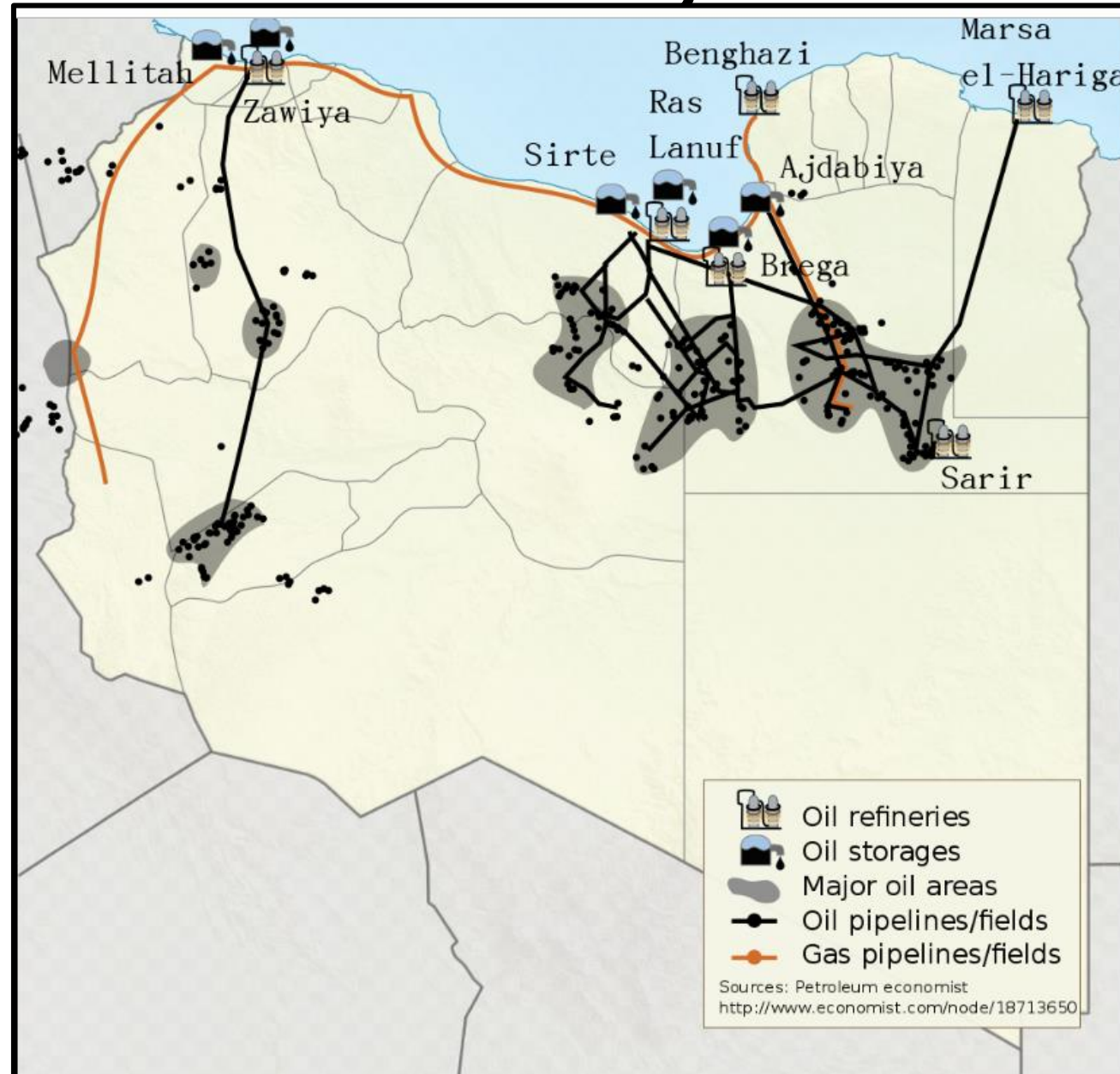
# LIBYA

As of a July 2015 estimate from the CIA World FactBook, the population of Libya is about 6.4 million. The country's population continues to grow at a rate of about 2.23% per year, while the life expectancy of a Libyan citizen is roughly 76 years. 79% of the population lives in urban areas of the country, typically in Tripoli and Benghazi, and along the coast of the Mediterranean. Most Libyans are of Berber (Amazigh) and Arab descent (97%), but 3% of the population is made up of several national and ethnic groups including Tunisians, Greeks, Maltese, Italians, Egyptians, Turks, Pakistanis and Indians. While Arabic is the official language of Libya, Italian, English, and some Berber dialects are often understood in major cities and metropolitan areas.

## Population of Libya

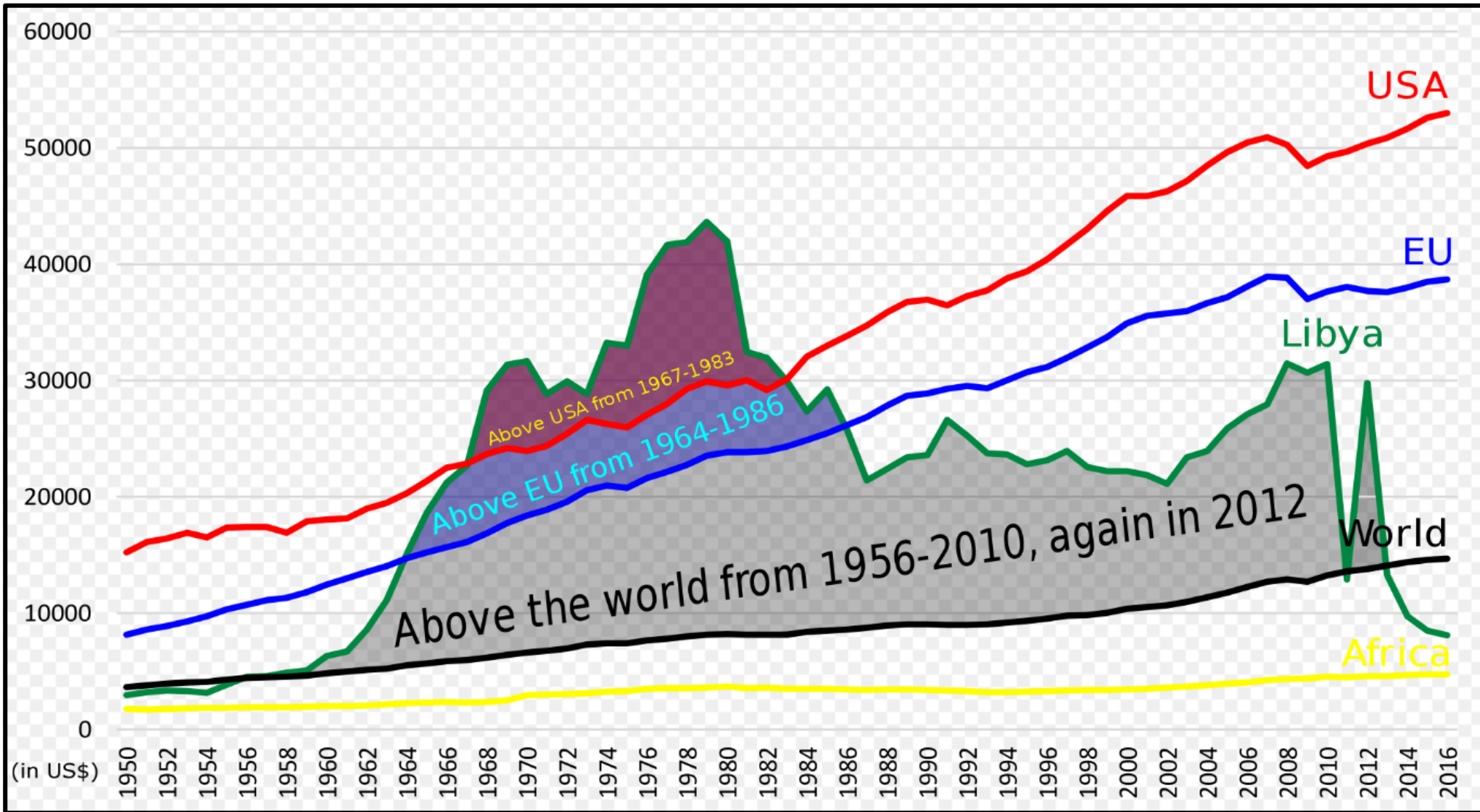


# SDA Libya



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Libya#/media/File:Libya\\_location\\_map-oil\\_&\\_gas\\_2011-en.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Libya#/media/File:Libya_location_map-oil_&_gas_2011-en.svg)





Libya under Gaddafi used to have a higher GDP (PPP) per capita than the EU, and in some periods higher than the US.

# LIBYA

The quality of education in Libya is one of the highest in the African continent. As of 2015, 91% of the population was literate, compared with 80% in Algeria and Egypt and rates as low as 27% in Mali and South Sudan. This is due in large part to government support for free and compulsory education at the primary level. Children attend primary education from ages 6-15, and have the option upon completion of primary school to continue for three more years at the secondary level. At the collegiate level, also known as tertiary education, students have access to several prominent universities in Libya. Among these are the University of Libya, Al-Fatah University, and the Gar Yunis University. The University of Libya was established by royal decree in 1955, and offers degrees in fields such as managing, marketing, and computer programming.

Healthcare in Libya is primarily accessed through the country's Ministry of Health. Though much of the system is state-run, Libyans also have access to several private healthcare facilities. The government spends about 4% of its Gross Domestic Product on healthcare, ranking 162 out of 191 nations in which data was collected. The revolution that brought about the end of Gaddafi's regime has had a negative impact on Libya's healthcare system. Hospitals in cities like Tripoli and Benghazi were damaged during the fighting and many doctors fled the country during the worst of the violence. The World Health Organization has partnered with the Libyan Ministry of Health to help rebuild and re-staff healthcare facilities throughout the country.

# LIBYA

## Libya

### Map



This map is an approximation of actual country borders.

### Statistics

Total population (2016)	6,293,000
Gross national income per capita (PPP international \$, 2009)	28,110
Life expectancy at birth m/f (years, 2016)	69/75
Probability of dying under five (per 1 000 live births, 2017)	12
Probability of dying between 15 and 60 years m/f (per 1 000 population, 2016)	196/103
Total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014)	806
Total expenditure on health as % of GDP (2014)	5.0

Latest data available from the [Global Health Observatory](https://www.who.int/countries/lby/en/)

	<b>Total population (x 1000)</b>	<b>Population aged 0–14 (%)</b>	<b>Population aged 15–64 (%)</b>	<b>Population aged 65+ (%)</b>
1801	~ 3 000	--	--	--
1825	~ 3 059	--	--	--
1850	~ 2 700	--	--	--
1870	~ 2 400	--	--	--
1910	~ 1 600	--	--	--
1950	1 029	41.9	53.4	4.7
1955	1 126	43.0	52.7	4.3
1960	1 349	43.3	52.7	4.0
1965	1 623	43.4	53.0	3.6
1970	1 994	45.2	52.1	2.7
1975	2 466	46.5	51.3	2.2
1980	3 063	47.0	50.7	2.2
1985	3 850	47.3	50.5	2.3
1990	4 334	43.5	53.9	2.6
1995	4 775	38.3	58.8	2.9
2000	5 231	32.4	64.2	3.4
2005	5 770	30.6	65.6	3.8
2010	6 355	30.4	65.3	4.3

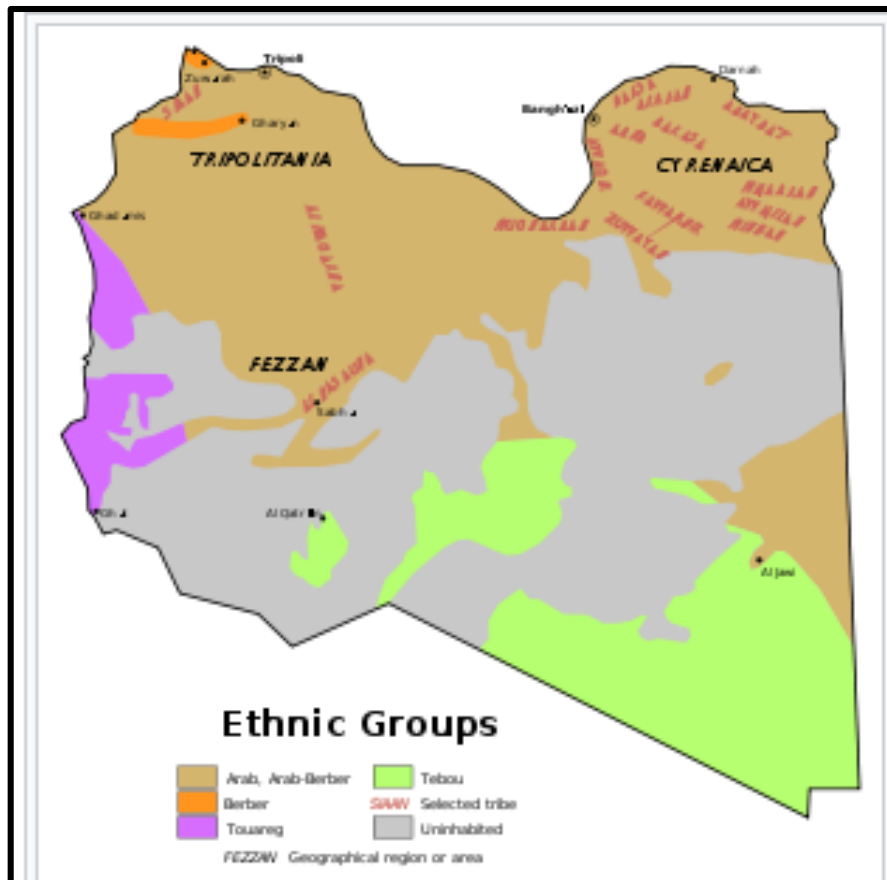
# LIBYA

## Population census [ edit ]

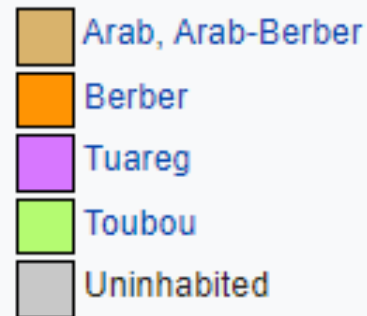
Eight population censuses have been carried out in Libya, the first in 1931 and the most recent one in 2006.

Year	Males (thousands)	Females (thousands)	Total population (thousands)	Average annual growth rate (%)
1931			704	
1936	463	386	849	3.8
1954	564	524	1,089	1.4
1964 (July 31)	813	751	1,564	3.7
1973 (July 31)	1,192	1,057	2,249	4.1
1984 (July 31)	1,954	1,689	3,643	4.5
1995 (August 11)	2,237	2,168	4,405	1.7
2006 (April 15)	2,934	2,723	5,658	2.3

# LIBYA



Ethnic composition of the Libyan population in 1974 (CIA map)



Resident native population of Libya (1936 census)<sup>[19]</sup>

Ethnic group	Population	% of Libya's total population
Arab-Berber	585,902	78%
Berbers	70,174	9.3%
Turks	35,062	4.7%
Black	30,079	4%
Others	29,634	4%
<b>Libya, Total</b>	<b>750,851</b>	<b>100%</b>

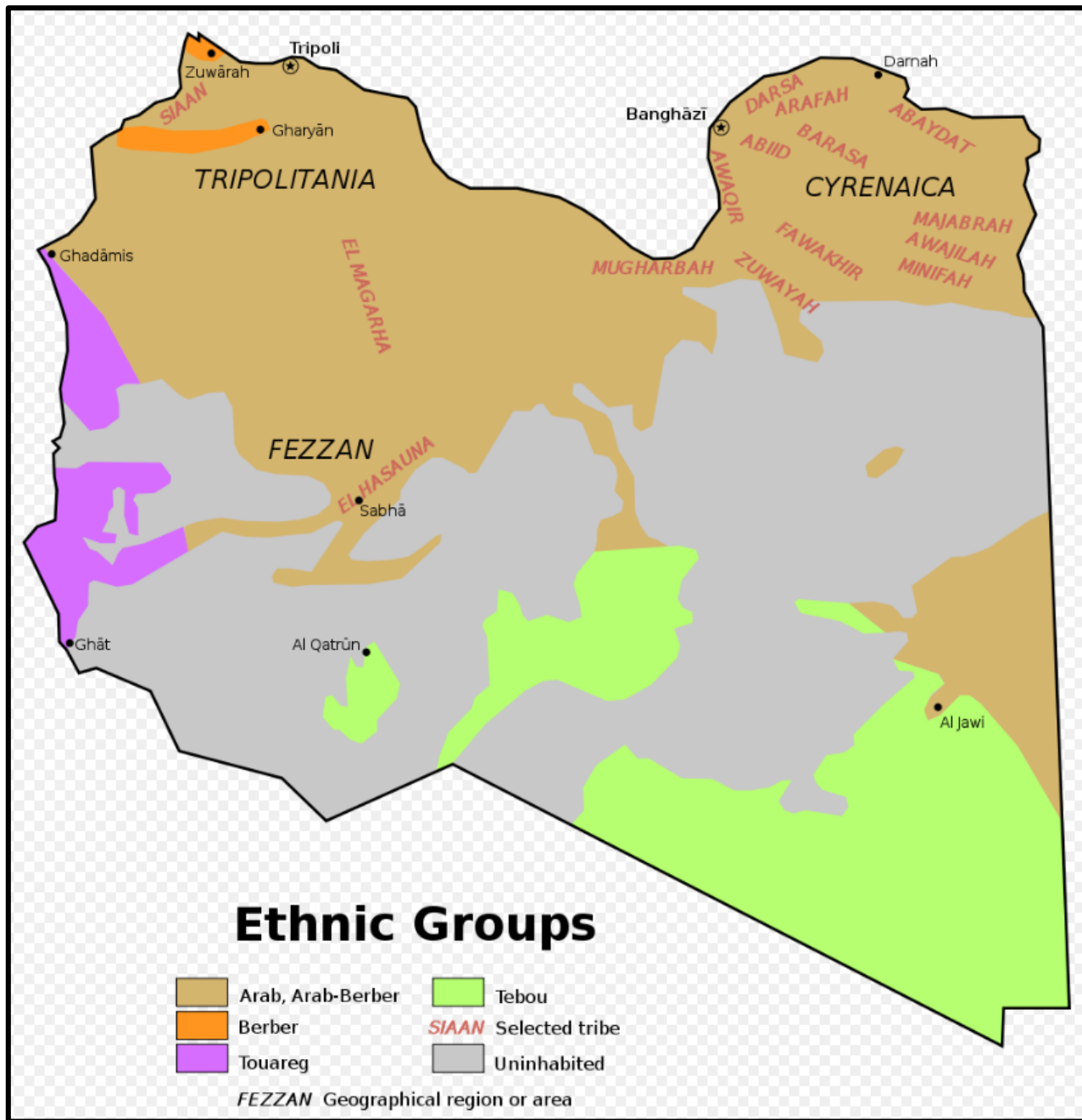
# LIBYA

	Libya													
Indicator	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Antiretroviral therapy coverage among people with HIV infection eligible for ART according to 2010 guidelines (%) <sup>i</sup>				No data										
Cellular subscribers (per 100 population) <sup>i</sup>				156	156	172								
Gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) <sup>i</sup>							28110	28010	27640	25520	23170	20730	20220	17650
Most recent census (year) <sup>i</sup>										2006				
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged 15 to 49 (%) <sup>i</sup>						0.2 [0.1– 0.2]					<0.1 [<0.1– <0.1]			
Tuberculosis treatment coverage <sup>i</sup>	39 [27– 60]	47 [33– 72]	54 [38– 84]	63 [44– 97]	61 [43– 95]		86 [74– 100]	83 [70– 100]	89 [79– 100]	86 [75– 100]	91 [83– 100]	73 [56– 97]	86 [75– 99]	83 [70– 99]
Number of under-five deaths <sup>i</sup>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3

# LIBYA

Indicator	Age Group	2016		2015		2014		2013		2012	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
IMR - age-specific death rate between ages x and y	<1 year	0.012	0.01	0.013	0.011	0.013	0.011	0.013	0.011	0.014	0.012
	1-4 years	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
	5-9 years	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0	0.001	0.001
	10-14 years	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0	0.001	0.001
	15-19 years	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0	0.001	0.001
	20-24 years	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
	25-29 years	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
	30-34 years	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
	35-39 years	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.001
	40-44 years	0.004	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.002







# LIBYA

## RELIGION

Libya is a predominantly Muslim country, with the majority (97%) of its people following Sunni Islam. The country also has a significant minority of Christians with about 60,000 members of the Egyptian Coptic church and 40,000 Roman Catholics. Libya once held one of the largest populations of Jews in North Africa; however, persecution related to the creation of the State of Israel and the subsequent Arab-Israeli wars combined with a rigorous immigration effort by Israel has diminished this population to nearly zero. Libya is also home to small Anglican protestant and Buddhist communities. Islam is the official religion of the state. Other religious groups are permitted to worship, but are prohibited from proselytizing or espousing political messages.

# LIBYA

Religions of Libya <sup>[18]</sup>		
Religions		percent
Islam (Sunni; Official)		96.6%
Christian		2.7%
Hindu		0.1%
Folk religion		0.1%
Unspecified		0.2%
Other		0.1%

# LIBYA

## CULTURE

The culture of Libya is closely tied to that of the Arab and Berber people of North Africa. Islam is also heavily intertwined with Libyan culture but there are other religious influences stemming from its history with various empires. This is evident in Libyan cuisine which is heavily influenced by North African and Mediterranean traditions. Meals usually include a variety of Mediterranean spices such as cayenne pepper and saffron, and feature ingredients like lamb, chicken, onions, tomatoes, olives, figs and dates. *Bazeen* is a Libyan dish featuring wheat cakes served in a type of stew with meat, onions, turmeric, salt, tomato paste, and chili powder. Potatoes and hard-boiled eggs are then added just before serving. The traditional dessert, *asida*, also includes wheat flour dough, but is instead covered in honey or butter. A common breakfast dish is known as *shakshouka*. *Shakshouka* features poached eggs in tomato sauce with vegetables, cheese, and onions. The dish is typically seasoned with chili peppers and cumin and served with coffee or tea.

Clothing in Libya tends to reflect generational lines, as younger people wear more Western-style clothes, especially in major cities. However, among the older population, clothing is generally more modest and conservative in keeping with Islamic specifications for appropriate dress. The traditional male garment is a long white robe that covers most of the body, while women wear a brightly colored gown in addition to a headscarf, known as the hijab.

# LIBYA



# LIBYA

RECOMMENDED

POPULAR

HEALTHY

QUICK & EASY



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**PRESERVED  
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**EGYPTIAN SPICED  
PRAWNS**

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# LIBYA

## Art

One of the earliest art forms in Libya can be found in the vast expanses of the southern desert in the form of rock art. Rock art typically takes the form of engravings or paintings on stones and rock formations found in the desert, and many of these works date back thousands of years. Engravings such as those found in the Karkur Tahl and Karkur Murr sites depict scenes of wild animals and ancient civilizations. In contrast, many types of modern artwork such as embroidery, weaving, and metalwork refrain from depicting humans or animals due to Islamic restrictions on representational art.

Other forms of art have only recently begun to generate interest, as the Gaddafi regime suppressed many mediums. In the aftermath of the 2011 revolution, art forms such as poetry and painting are becoming common. Libyan poets such as Khaled Mattawa, long active in exile, and Abderraouf Abdelmajid Bin Al-Amin have penned long poems expressing joy over the success of the revolution and apprehension about the future of the country. Bin Al-Amin's work in particular highlights the attachment to homeland, faith, and the Arab connection experienced by many in the country. In painting, Ali Abani has created colorful portraits of Libya's scenic landscapes and natural beauty. He has also begun to pioneer Libya's expansion into the modern art world by working with computers and new forms of social media to spread his work.

# LIBYA



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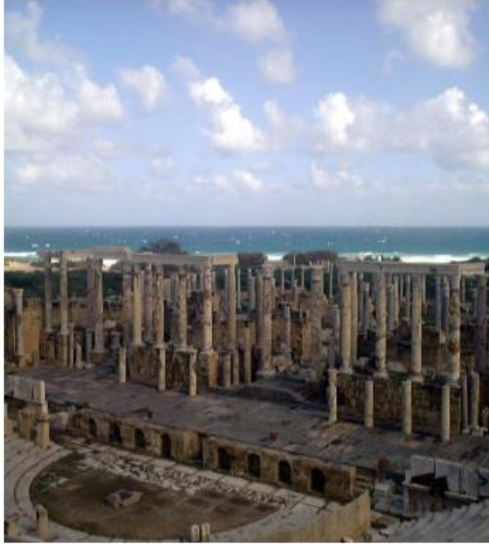
AFP | MAHMUD TURKIA

<http://teachmideast.org/country-profiles/libya/>



# LIBYA

## Sites



Libya has several sites of significance to both its ancient history and Islamic heritage. Several ancient ruins still stand across Libya which offer reminders of its Greek and Roman history. One such monument is the ruins of the Temple of Zeus in the Cyrene region of Libya. Built in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE by the Greeks, this temple is now a UNESCO world heritage site and shows traces of Egyptian architectural designs. A more recent site is the Red Castle Museum in Tripoli. This structure was once a defensive castle built to protect Tripoli from seaborne invasions, and is believed to have been painted red following the brief occupation of the Spanish in 1510 CE. The Italians converted the castle into a museum in 1919, and it became Libya's national museum in 1948. The museum holds artifacts spanning thousands of years of history including Roman statues from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. The Red Castle is also home to jewels, pottery, gold coins, ornate mosaics, dinosaur bones, and several relics from Gaddafi's rule. Access to Libya's architectural, cultural, and natural wonders has been cut off due to the ongoing turmoil taking place in the country.

# LIBYA



**Ali Abani**  
Born in 1946, lives and works in the medina of Tripolis.



**Space, 2003**  
Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 150 cm

Ali Abani, born in 1946, grew up in a scenically beautiful area in northern Libya. So it's not astonishing that, in his art, landscapes are a prevailing topic, not so much in a popular style, but artistically very demanding. The works must be lasting as independent creations.

Color dominates and produces the illusion of light, and thus also of spaces, of openness and vastness. Time and again clouds can be seen, but it's not the clouds of a John Constable, but clouds playing a particular role in a country rich in deserts like Libya. Looking at Abani's pictures, rainmaker myths are being evoked. Myths that are, understandably enough, of great existential significance within the desert culture. Therefore, to give them expression in art means to participate in the development of Libyan painting.

In Abani's work landscape is space and space is color. Over the years, this color has become increasingly independent. In the end its effect could almost be described as psychedelic. Someone knowing all about the European history of art will discover a surprising but congenial parallel to Edgar Degas' late monotypes.

What's striking in Abani's works is the artist's attempt to transfer, with an abstract, flowing rhythmic art the non-figurative iconology of Islam into a contemporary modern framework.

Most recently, Ali Abani has begun to realize his works with the help of computers and new media. In this way Abani shows to what extent Libya is on its way to catch up with present-day artistic tendencies.

# LIBYA

**Image: Cyrene Temple of Zeus** submitted by [AlexHunger](#)



Ancient Temple in Libya

Cyrene Temple of Zeus. Very large 6th century BCE temple which measures 70 Meters by 32 Meters and has 17 by 8 Doric columns. Stonework shows traces of Egyptian workmanship. Here are some of the remaining colossal column capitals and part of a drum.

The temple was destroyed several times, including a Jewish rebellion against Rome in 120 CE and a 4th century CE earthquake. Italian archeologists restored it to the present state since since 1957. For example, some of the lost fluting was added to the columns in order to better simulate the original appearance. All work ceased in 1974. It's now a Unesco World Heritage site.

625 Meters altitude

The Cyrene site is very large and essentially spread accross 3 different locations at different altitudes: Temple of Zeus, Sanctuary of Apollo and the town itself.

# LIBYA

## Music

The musical styles popular in Libya are also common throughout much of North Africa. Among these styles are *ma'louf* and *chaabi*. Ma'louf is most common in Tunisia, but is also well-known in Libya and features a small orchestra with drums, violins, sitars, and flutes. This musical style may also be played with a tambourine, stringed oud, or the darbuka drum. Chaabi is a similar style which emphasizes a slower, rolling beat and rhythm. Both ma'louf and chaabi are performed at festivals and weddings, and people often dance to the beat of the music. One of the most well-known Libyan musicians of these styles is Mohammad Hassan. Hassan was known as the favorite signer of Gaddafi, but his popularity has declined greatly since the revolution.

The strong Amazigh identity of the Libyan population has corresponded with the popularity of traditional and contemporary Berber music. This music is stylistically varied and utilizes diverse instruments such as the bagpipe and oboe, but typically feature stringed instruments and drums. It makes heavy use of African rhythms and usually features a call-and-response section for larger groups of people. Berber music often includes socio-political themes such as the struggle to maintain identity in the face of an Arab majority and the fight to obtain national recognition of the Amazigh languages.

# LIBYA



**Assaraya Alhamra Museum**

# LIBYA

## **The silver writing in Arabic reads: The Museum of Assaraya Alhamra.**

The name Assaraya Alhamra means "The Red Castle" or "The Red Fort". It was said that it was painted red after the Spanish invasions in 1510 AD, as still hinted at by its current ochrey colour. The fortified castle was built to defend the capital city and it continued to be the centre of Tripoli's power right down to the 20th century. Recent digging along an adjacent road revealed that the fort was built on top of an ancient Roman fortified camp, but some sources state that the actual building was established by the Phoenicians, who later abandoned the city after they settled in nearby Carthage.

This road once passed through the castle and was adorned with statues on both sides, which gave the museum an outstanding outdoor department. After the Romans' descendants' return with the arrival of the 20th century, the Italians converted a section of the castle that was originally used as an ammunition storehouse into Libya's first museum, in 1919, to house some of the countless archaeological artifacts, scattered across Libya's vast landscape, and spanning from prehistoric times to the present. Many of these treasures are still in the open to this day, slowly degraded by water, wind and the scorching heat of the Libyan sun.

By 1930s, it was re-named the Classical Museum - in reference to the classical Greco-Roman period. After the British occupied Libya during the Second War, the museum grew to occupy the entire complex and became known as The Libyan Museum in 1948; with the following wings:

# LIBYA

- Ancient Libyan Berber Tribes (Berber Garamantes, Berber Tuareg, etc.).
- Libyan-Punic-Greco-Roman-Byzantine Traditions.
- Natural History.

After Gaddafi's arrival in 1969, a new wing was added, namely The People's Era Wing, to document the Libyan struggle for independence. It is emerged later that Libya has taken this a step further and began building its war museum, known as The Conflict Museum (see above menu for link). In 1982, in a joint venture with UNISCO, the museum was further developed to its current state and became known as Assaraya Alhmara Museum, which reopened its doors to the public in 1988.

