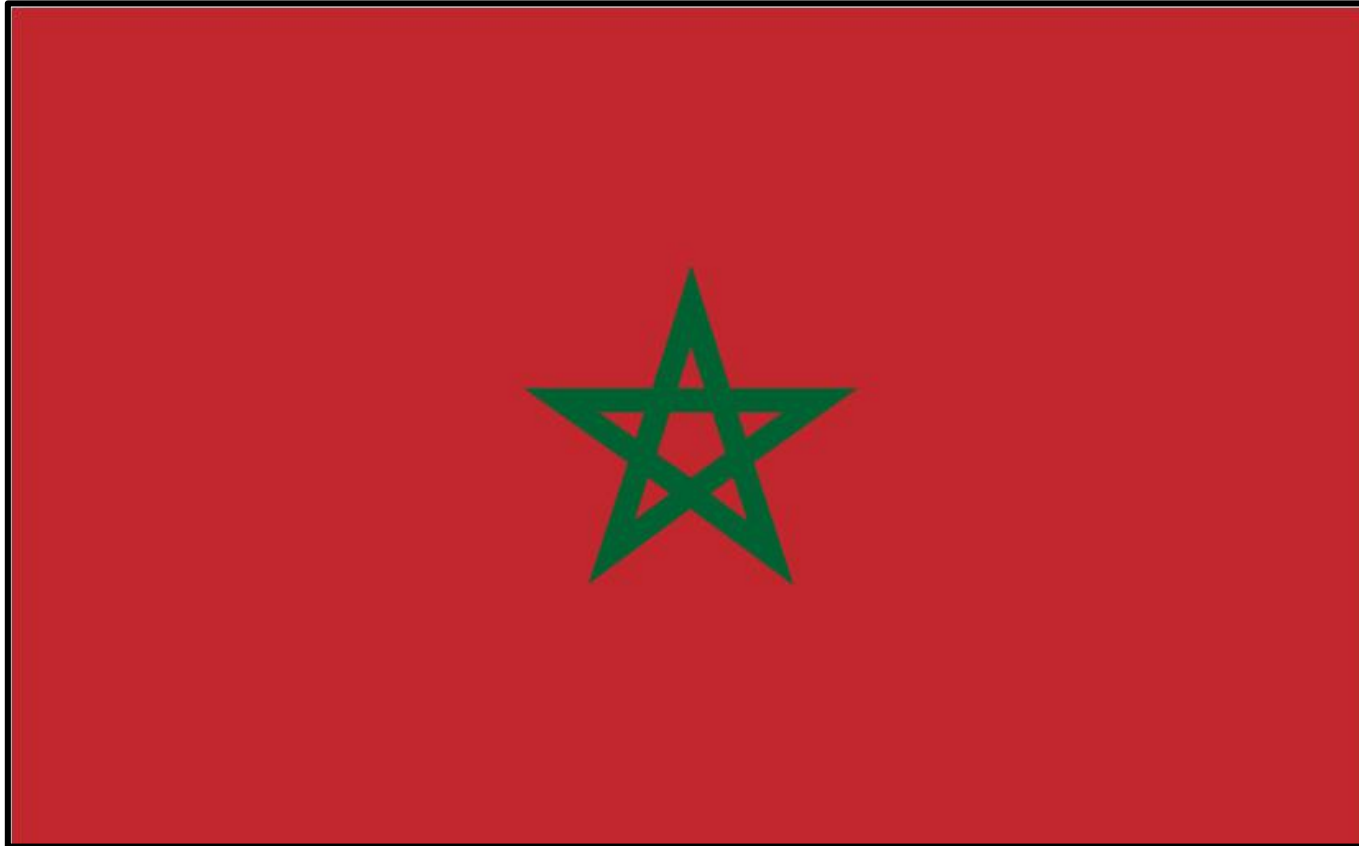


MAROKO



MAROKO

Kerajaan Maroko

المملكة المغربية

Al-Mamlakah al-Maghribiyah (Arab)

ⵜⴰⴳⴷⴰⵢⵜ ⵏ ⵍⵎⴰⵖⵔⵉⴱ

Tageldit n Lmayrib (Berber)

Royaume du Maroc (Prancis)



Bendera



Lambang

MAROKO



<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maroko>

MAROKO



MAROKO

The Kingdom of Morocco is the most westerly of the North African countries known as the Maghreb - the "Arab West". It has Atlantic and Mediterranean coastlines, a rugged mountain interior and a history of independence not shared by its neighbours.



The Kingdom of Morocco

Capital: Rabat

Population 35 million

Area 710,850 sq km (274,461 sq miles) (including W Sahara)

Major languages Arabic and Berber (official), French, Spanish

Major religion Islam

Life expectancy 74 years (men), 77 years (women)

Currency Dirham

UN, World Bank



Getty Images

LEADERS

King: Mohammed VI




GETTY IMAGES

Groomed for "kingship", as his late father King Hassan II referred to his upbringing, Mohammed VI became monarch in 1999.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14121438>

MAROKO

Ibu kota	Rabat	Population	
Kota terbesar	Casablanca  33°32'N 7°35'E	- Perkiraan 2014	33.337.529 (39)
Bahasa resmi	Arab dan Berber	PDB (KKB)	2014
Bahasa lainnya ^[1]	Prancis	- Total	\$252.366 miliar ^[2] (55)
Pemerintahan	Monarki semi-konstitusional ¹	- Per kapita	\$7.606 ^[2] (115)
• Raja	Muhammad VI	PDB (nominal)	2014
• Perdana Menteri	Saadeddine Othmani	- Total	\$109.201 miliar ^[2] (61)
Legislatif	Parlemen	- Per kapita	\$3.291 ^[2] (123)
- Majelis Tinggi	مجلس النواب <i>Majlis an-Nuwab</i>	Gini (2007)	40.9 ^[3] sedang
- Majelis Rendah	مجلس المستشارين <i>Majlis al-Mustasyarin</i>	IPM (2013)	▲ 0.617 ^[4] Error: Invalid HDI value - 129
Pembentukan		Mata uang	Dirham Maroko (د.م.)
• Dinasti Idrisiyyah (pendiri)	789	Zona waktu	Waktu Eropa Barat (WET) (UTC+0)
• Dinasti Alawiyah (saat ini)	1666	- Musim panas (DST)	UTC+1 (Waktu Musim Panas Eropa Barat (WEST))
• Menjadi protektorat Prancis dan Spanyol	30 Maret 1912	Lajur kemudi	kanan
• Kemerdekaan	7 April 1956	Kode telepon	+212
- Perairan (%)	0,056	Kode ISO 3166	MA
		Ranah Internet	.ma dan المغرب

MAROKO



LIFE EXPECTANCY
74 (M) 80 (W)



CAPITAL
Rabat



LARGEST CITY
Casablanca



NATIONALITY
Moroccan



RELIGIONS
Islam, Christianity

MOROCCO OVERVIEW



CURRENCY
Moroccan
Dinar (MAD)



POPULATION
35,238,538



LANGUAGES
Arabic, Berber,
French



AGRICULTURE
Wheat, Barley, Citrus Fruits,
Grapes, Vegetables, Olives,
Livestock, Wine



INDUSTRIES
Phosphate Mining/Processing,
Food Processing, Leather,
Textiles, Energy, Tourism

MAROKO

GEOGRAPHY

Morocco (Arabic: pronunciation: *al-magrib*, literal translation: 'place the sun sets; the west?') is a country located in northwestern Africa. Morocco is situated on the Atlantic Ocean on its west coast and the Mediterranean Sea on its northern coast, along the southern edge of the Strait of Gibraltar. Morocco shares its eastern border with Algeria; closed since 1994, the frontier measures around 1,600 km, one of the longest closed borders in the world. To the south is the disputed Western Sahara territory which Morocco claims as its own but others recognize as occupied. Morocco has a total land area of 446,550 square kilometers (172,413 square miles), an area slightly larger than the state of California. Morocco has a Mediterranean climate that becomes hotter further inland, toward the Sahara Desert. Winters along the coast are generally mild, although temperatures can reach lows of 40°F. Summers are usually hot and humid in the capital city of Rabat, with temperatures regularly approaching 100°F. Temperatures are typically much cooler in the Atlas Mountains and warmer toward Western Sahara and the Sahara Desert. Much of the country is mountainous along the coast, and further inland there are plateaus and mountain valleys which gradually become the Sahara Desert. Due to the extremes of mountainous land and desert, only about 17% of Morocco's land is arable.



MAROKO

Morocco currently faces several environmental problems. Overgrazing, soil erosion, and unsustainable farming techniques have contributed to the process of desertification which threatens to eliminate much of Morocco's arable land. Drinking water has also been limited by pollution from improperly managed sewage and oil spills along the coast. In response, the **National Office of Electricity and Potable Water** (ONEP) has conducted several feasibility studies to select the best equipment to be used to treat incoming water and prevent further contamination. This office has also been looking into seawater desalination facilities to complement this effort. In 2010, Morocco also announced the implementation of a **National Charter for Environmental and Sustainable Development**, the first African nation to do so. The charter outlined a blueprint to convert at least half of Morocco's energy production to sustainable sources by 2020. Morocco has ratified the Paris Climate Agreement, and in November 2016 Morocco hosted the COP22 climate change conference to elaborate on the agreement in Marrakech.

Morocco had received accolades over the past several years for its progressive stance on sustainable and green energy in Africa, the Middle East, and beyond. In July 2016, the kingdom banned the use of plastic bags; a few months later Africa's first bike-share was launched in Morocco. A "cloud fishing" initiative in an arid region of the country allows residents to harvest fog as a source of water. The country has invested heavily in solar energy and windfarms but the latter have been criticized for their placement in the disputed Western Sahara territory. The government has also received criticism for expropriating land in the Atlas Mountains for mining purposes. Thus, despite the positive attention Morocco has received for its proactive response to climate change, citizens have voiced opposition to what they feel is exploitation of local natural resources. How these different interests will balance out remains to be seen.

The dynasty [edit]

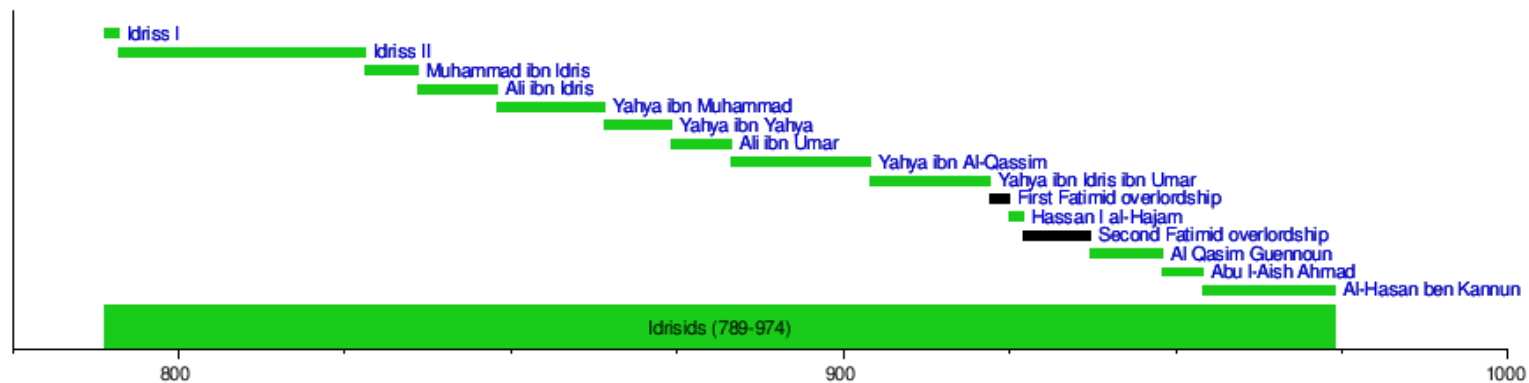
Rulers [edit]

- Idris I – (788–791)
- Idris II – (791–828)
- Muhammad ibn Idris – (828–836)
- Ali ibn Muhammad, known as "Ali I" – (836–848)
- Yahya ibn Muhammad, known as "Yahya I" – (848–864)
- Yahya ibn Yahya, known as "Yahya II" – (864–874)
- Ali ibn Umar, known as "Ali II" – (874–883)
- Yahya ibn Al-Qassim, known as "Yahya III" – (883–904)
- Yahya ibn Idris ibn Umar, known as "Yahya IV" – (904–917)

Fatimid overlordship – (917-925)

- Al-Hajjam al-Hasan ibn Muhammad ibn al-Qassim – (925–927)
- Al Qasim Gannum – (937-948)
- Abu I-Aish Ahmad – (948-954)
- Al-Hasan ibn Guennoun, known as "Hassan II" – (954–974) (not to be confused with Hassan II, born in 1929)

Timeline [edit]



MAROKO

— Royal house — Idrisid dynasty		
Preceded by —	Emirs of Morocco 789–917 925–927 937–974	Succeeded by — <i>Umayyad overlordship</i>
Preceded by Umayyad dynasty	Caliphs of Cordoba Hammudid branch 1016–1023 1025–1027	Succeeded by Umayyad dynasty <i>(Restored)</i>
Preceded by — <i>Disintegration of the Caliphate of Cordoba</i>	Taifa kings of Malaga Hammudid branch 1026–1057	Succeeded by — <i>Annexed to the Taifa of Granada</i>
Preceded by — <i>Disintegration of the Caliphate of Cordoba</i>	Taifa kings of Algeciras Hammudid branch 1039–1058	Succeeded by — <i>Annexed to the Taifa of Seville</i>
Preceded by Marinid dynasty	Sultans of Morocco Joutey branch 1465–1472	Succeeded by Wattasid dynasty

MAROKO

- 1509: establishment of the Saadian Principality in [Tagmadert](#);
- 1511: the Saadians receive the support of the [Souss](#);
- 1524: the Saadians receive the support of the [Hintata](#) tribes, who control [Marrakech](#);
- 1527: the [Wattasids](#) recognize the Saadian rule of southern Morocco through the [Treaty of Tadla](#);
- 1541: the Saadian army expels the Portuguese from [Agadir](#), [Azamor](#), [Azafi](#) and [Arzila](#);
- 1554: [Mohammed ash-Sheikh](#) overthrows [Ahmad el Abbas](#), the last [wattasid](#) Sultan;
- 1561–67: annexation of the principalities of [Tetouan](#), [Chefchaouen](#) and [Debdou](#);
- 1578: [Battle of Alcácer Quibir](#): Moroccan victory over the [Portuguese](#) army;
- 1581: conquest of the [Touat](#);
- 1591: [battle of Tondibi](#), conquest of the [Songhai Empire](#);
- 1603–27: civil war after the death of [Ahmad al-Mansur](#), opposing three pretenders: [Abou Fares Abdallah](#), [Zidan al-Nasir](#) and [Mohammed esh Sheikh el Mamun](#); beginning of the decline of the Saadi Empire;
- 1628: reunification of [Fes](#) and [Marrakech](#), but Saadians failed to regain control over many territories, including: [Rabat](#), [Salé](#) and [Tetouan](#) (ruled by [Andalusis](#)), [Tafilale](#)t (alternately ruled by the [Alaouites](#) and emir of [Tazeroualt](#)), [Oujda](#) (ruled by the [Ottomans](#)) and many other territories lost to warlords, [Zaouias](#) leaders and refractory tribes; they lost gradually the control over the territories that remained under their rule until 1659, when they disappeared from the Moroccan political and military scenes.

From 1631 to 1666 the Alaouite dynasty ruled as princes of **Tafilalt**:

- **Moulay Ali Cherif** (1631–1635)
- **Muhammad ibn Sharif** (1635–1664)
- **Al-Rashid** (1664–1666)

In 1666 **Mulay Al-Rashid** was proclaimed Sultan of Morocco at **Fez**:

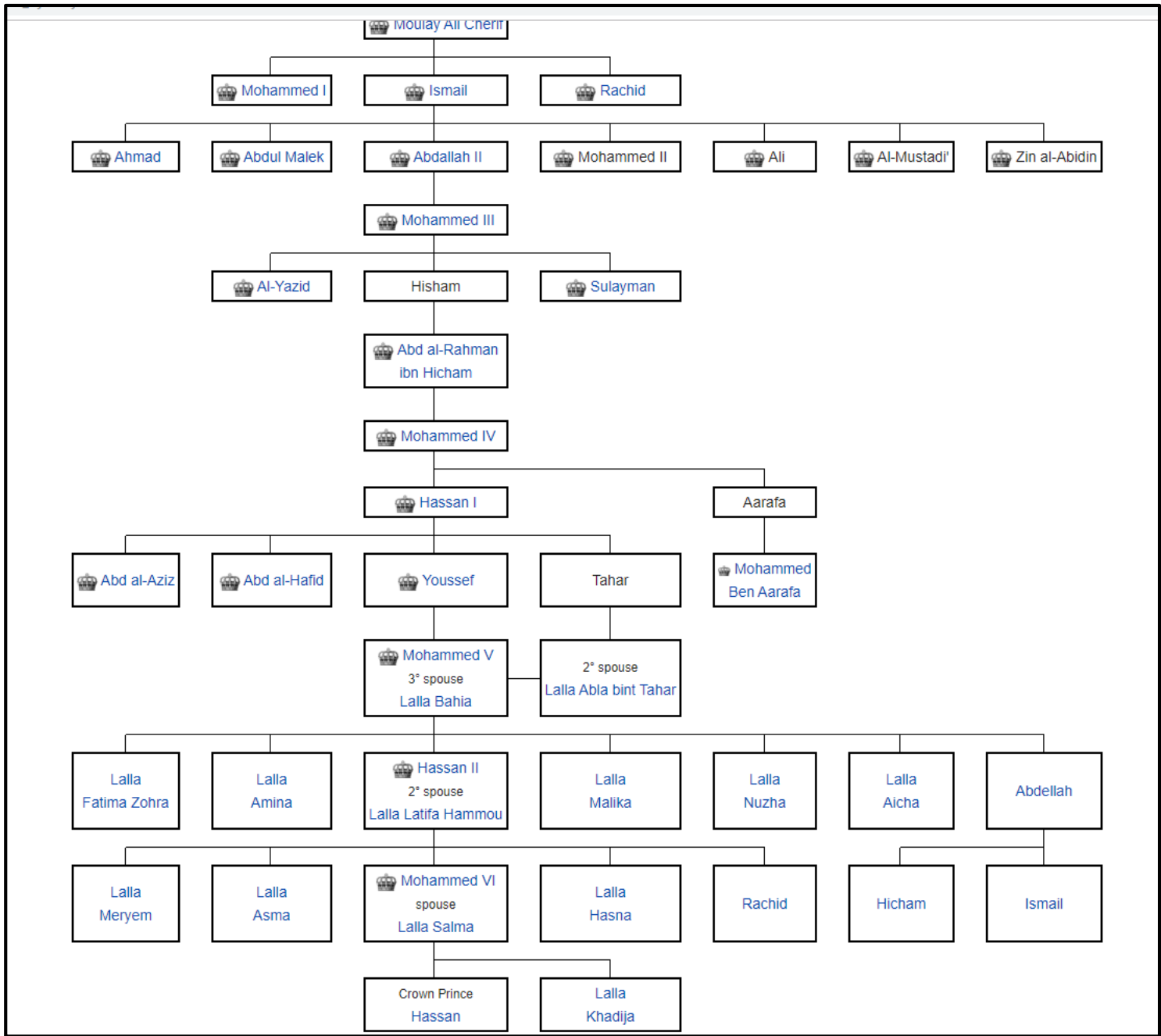
- **Al-Rashid** (1666–1672)
- **Mawlay Ismail Ibn Sharif** (1672–1727)
- **Abu'l Abbas Ahmad II** (1727–1728) (*first time*)
- **Abdalmalik** (1728)
- **Abu'l Abbas Ahmad II** (1728–1729) (*second time*)
- **Abdallah** (1729–1734) (*first time*)
- **Ali** (1734–1736)
- **Abdallah** (1736) (*second time*)
- **Mohammed II** (1736–1738)
- **Al-Mostadi** (1738–1740) (*first time*)
- **Abdallah** (1740–1741) (*third time*)
- **Zin al-Abidin** (1741)
- **Abdallah** (1741–1742) (*fourth time*)
- **Al-Mostadi** (1742–1743) (*second time*)
- **Abdallah** (1743–1747) (*fifth time*)
- **Al-Mostadi** (1747–1748) (*third time*)
- **Abdallah** (1748–1757) (*sixth time*)
- **Mohammed III** (1757–1790)
- **Yazid** (1790–1792)
- **Mulay Suleiman** (1792–1822)
- **Abderrahmane** (1822–1859)
- **Mohammed IV** (1859–1873)
- **Hassan I** (1873–1894)
- **Abdelaziz** (1894–1908)
- **Abdelhafid** (1908–1912)

Under the French protectorate (1912–1956):

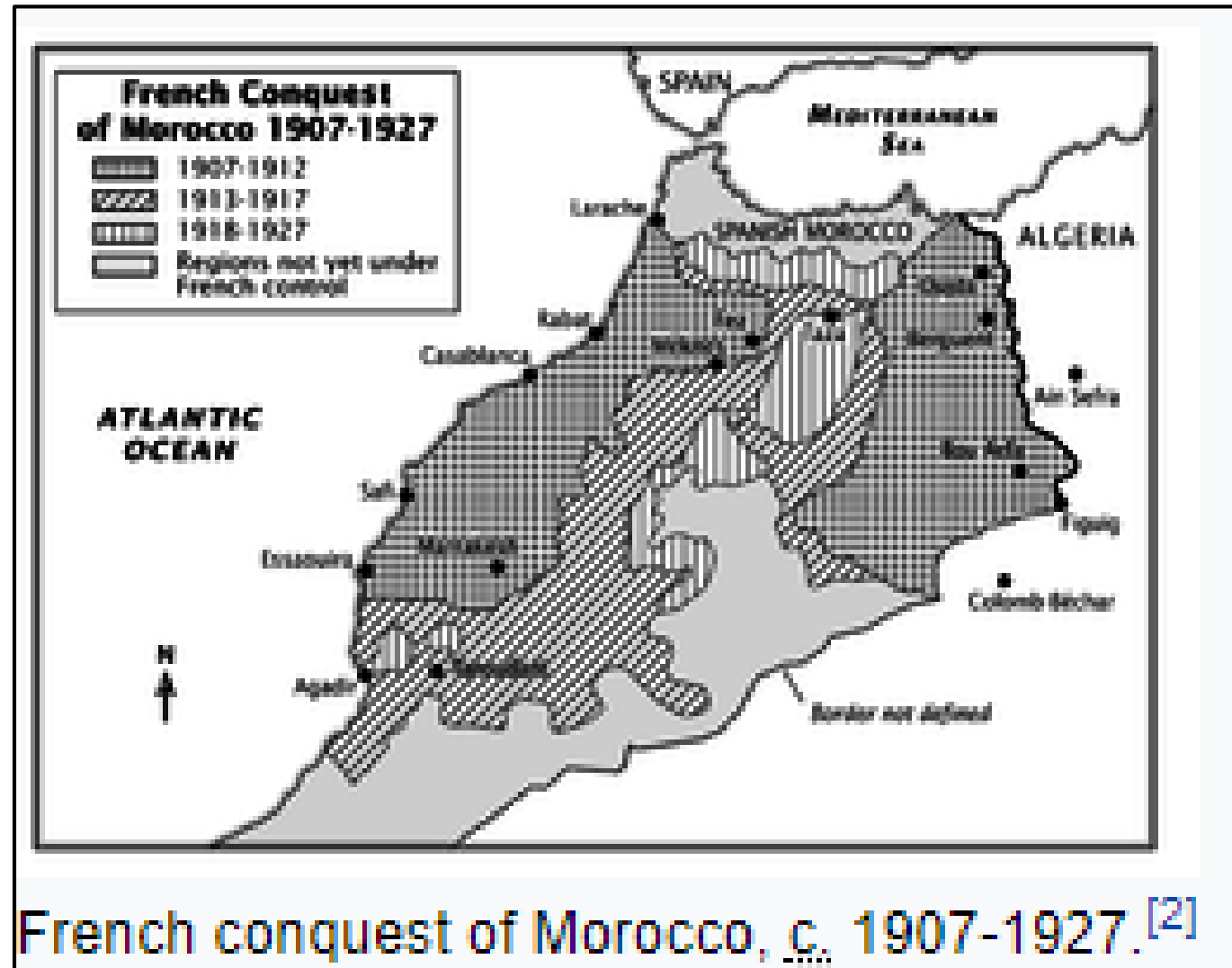
- **Yusef** (1912–1927)
- King **Mohammed V** (1927–1961), changed title of ruler from **Sultan** to **King** in 1957. Deposed and exiled to **Corsica** and **Madagascar** (1953–1955).
- **Mohammed Ben Aarafa**, installed by France (1953–1955)

From independence (1956 onwards):

- King **Mohammed V** (1955–1961)
- King **Hassan II** (1961–1999)
- King **Mohammed VI** (1999–present)



MAROKO



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French conquest of Morocco



Map showing the area conquered by period.

Zaian War (1914–21)

Rif War (1920–26)

Middle Atlas campaign (1932–34)

Anti-Atlas campaign (20 February – 10 March 1934)






https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_conquest_of_Morocco/

No.	Portrait	Name (Birth–Death)	Term of office		Political Party	Legislature (Election)	King (Reign)
1		Mbarek Bekkay مبارك البكاي (1907–1961) ^[1]	1	7 December 1955	12 May 1958	Independent	Mohammed V محمد الخامس  (1955–1961)
			2				
2		Ahmed Balafrej أحمد بلالفرج (1908–1990)	•	12 May 1958	16 December 1958	Istiqlal Party	
3		Abdallah Ibrahim عبد الله إبراهيم (1918–2005)	•	16 December 1958	20 May 1960	Istiqlal Party	
—		<i>Position vacant</i> (Direct rule by <i>Mohammed V</i>)	•	20 May 1960	26 February 1961 (<i>died in office.</i>)	Independent	
—		<i>Position vacant</i> (Direct rule by <i>Hassan II</i>)	1	26 February 1961	13 November 1963	Independent	
			2				
			3				
4		Ahmed Bahnini أحمد بختيني (1909–1971)	•	13 November 1963	7 June 1965	Front for the Defence of Constitutional Institutions	
—		<i>Position vacant</i> (Direct rule by <i>Hassan II</i>)	4	7 June 1965	7 July 1967	Independent	
5		Mohamed Benhima محمد بنهيمه (1924–1992)	•	7 July 1967	6 October 1969	Front for the Defence of Constitutional Institutions	
6		Ahmed Laraki أحمد العراقي (1931–)	1	6 October 1969	6 August 1971	Istiqlal Party	

MAROKO

7		Mohammed Karim Lamrani محمد كريم العمراني (1919–2018)	1	6 August 1971	2 November 1972	Independent	II (1970)	Hassan II الحسن الثاني  (1961–1999)
			2					
8		Ahmed Osman أحمد عصمان (1930–)	1	2 November 1972	22 March 1979	National Rally of Independents	III (1977)	
			2					
9		Maati Bouabid المعطي بوعبيد (1927–1996)	1	22 March 1979	30 November 1983	Constitutional Union	III (1977)	
			2					
(7)		Mohammed Karim Lamrani محمد كريم العمراني (1919–2018)	3	30 November 1983	30 September 1986	Independent	IV (1984)	
			4					
10		Azzeddine Laraki عز الدين العراقي (1929–2010)	2	30 September 1986	11 August 1992	Independent	IV (1984)	
(7)		Mohammed Karim Lamrani محمد كريم العمراني (1919–2018)	5	11 August 1992	25 May 1994	Independent	V (1993)	
			6					
11		Abdellatif Filali عبد اللطيف الفلالي (1928–2009)	1	25 May 1994	4 February 1998	Independent	V (1993)	
			2					
			3					
12		Abderrahmane Youssef عبد الرحمن اليوسفي (1924–)	1	4 February 1998	9 October 2002	Socialist Union of Popular Forces	VI (1997)	
			2					

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13		Driss Jettou إدريس جطو (1945–)	1	9 October 2002	19 September 2007	Independent	VII (2002)	Mohammed VI محمد السادس
		2						
14		Abbas El Fassi عبداس الفاسي (1940–)	•	19 September 2007	29 November 2011	Istiqlal Party	VIII (2007)	 (1999–)
15		Abdellilah Benkirane عبد الإله بنكيران (1954–)	1	29 November 2011	5 April 2017	Justice and Development Party	IX (2011)	
		2						
16		Saadeddine Othmani سعد الدين العثماني (1956–)	•	5 April 2017	Incumbent	Justice and Development Party	X (2016)	

MAROKO

Main office holders

Office	Name	Party	Since
King	Mohammed VI		23 July 1999
Prime Minister	Saadeddine Othmani	Justice and Development Party	5 April 2017

MAROKO

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_heads_of_government_of_Morocco

MAROKO

HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

Morocco's location at the threshold of the Mediterranean Sea has made it critically important throughout the history of North Africa and southern Europe. The seafaring Phoenicians expanded their influence and trade networks to the western end of the Mediterranean by the 12th century BCE. This development brought the indigenous Berber population of Morocco into greater contact with the larger Mediterranean cultural network. The Phoenicians established a few small outposts at Chellah, Lixus, and Mogador across modern-day Morocco. By the 5th century BCE, the Carthaginian Empire, centered in modern day Tunisia, had taken control of the coastal regions of much of North Africa including Morocco. Following the fall of the Carthaginian Empire, the Romans annexed the territory in 40 CE and maintained nominal control over the coast until 429, when it was lost to the Germanic Vandal tribe.

The conquest of the region by the Arabs in the 7th century began the conversion of the indigenous Berber people (self-identified as *Amazigh*, the free people) to Islam. The various Islamic empires appointed governors for its conquered territories throughout the Middle East, and the Amazigh populations in Morocco faced high taxes and tribute demands as a result. The people grew increasingly frustrated with this treatment and launched a revolt in 740. The revolt successfully expelled the Arab leaders, but the region unraveled into a series of small, independent Berber states. In the 900s, the Shia Fatimid dynasty rose to power in North Africa and successfully invaded Morocco, but quickly abandoned its hold on the western end of the Mediterranean to establish a new capital in Cairo, Egypt. The Amazigh once again regained control of the land and established strong dynasties including the Almoravids, Almohads, Marinids, and Wattasids, that commanded the area until the 1550s.

MAROKO

Unlike most countries in the Middle East, Morocco never came under the direct control of the Ottoman Turks. The Moroccans and Ottomans jointly expelled a Portuguese occupying force in 1578 at the Battle of Ksar El-Kebir, and Ahmad al-Mansur became the Sultan of the Arab Saadi dynasty which had established its dominance in 1549. Ahmad al-Mansur brought unprecedented prosperity to the region, but his dynasty was divided among his sons following his death in 1603. In 1669, Moulay al-Rashid overthrew the last Saadi ruler in Morocco and united the country by founding the Arab Alaouite dynasty, which remains the current dynasty of the Kingdom of Morocco. In the mid-1800s, Morocco became increasingly influenced by European powers, specifically the French and Spanish. Neighboring Algeria became an official province of France in 1848, and small-scale battles with Spain in 1859 further weakened the ability of Morocco to resist European encroachment.

Morocco's independence was guaranteed during the **Conference of Madrid** in 1880, but the French and Spanish continued to sway Morocco's politics in their favor. In the early 1900s, France attempted to create a protectorate status with Morocco, while Germany sought to increase its economic interests in the region. Germany and France engaged in a heated diplomatic battle over the status of Morocco, and the result was the Algeciras Conference of 1906 (more information in Resources section below). The conference allowed for joint control over Morocco between France and Spain. The Treaty of Fez in 1912 further established the country as a protectorate of France, and gave the Spanish control over much of the northern coastline along the Strait of Gibraltar.

MAROKO

Though the Alaouite dynasty continued as the official ruler of the country, joint French and Spanish administration would endure until 1956, albeit with considerable difficulties. One notable event took place in September 1921 when a separatist group in Spanish Morocco led by Abd el-Krim declared its independence from the Spanish and the Sultan, establishing the Republic of the Rif. The Spanish and French spent several years in violent conflict with the Rif separatists and finally put down the rebellion in May 1926. Moroccans then became increasingly nationalistic during the interwar years, especially following Moroccan support for the Allied victory in World War II. When France exiled the popular Sultan Mohammad V from Morocco in 1953, waves of protests broke out in Morocco and put significant pressure on France and Spain to end their involvement in the country. The Rif region continues to be an area of conflict and tension to this day with recent protests accusing the government of neglect and mistreatment.

Mohammed V and supporters of Moroccan independence negotiated with the French and Spanish through 1955, and ultimately agreed upon a deal that would restore Mohammed V to the throne and expel the two European powers from the majority of Moroccan territory. Following acceptance of the deal, France relinquished its protectorate status from Morocco in April 1956 and Spain began retreating from the country following similar agreements in 1956 and 1958. Despite these gains for Morocco, the Spanish has never relinquished control of the cities of Ceuta and Melilla in northern Morocco, and continue to administer these cities as a part of Spain today.

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Mohammad V was declared king of the newly independent Morocco in 1957 and continued to rule the country until his death in 1961, establishing the country as a constitutional monarchy. He was succeeded by his son Hassan II, whose rule faced significant unpopularity and unrest due to allegations of corruption and repression.

One of the most significant events of Hassan II's reign was a conflict involving the territory to the south of Morocco known then as Spanish Sahara. Morocco had claimed the region for centuries, but it remained part of a Spanish protectorate after Moroccan independence. In 1975, the United Nations determined through a national referendum that the vast majority of the Saharan people desired independence, and Spain met with representatives from Morocco, Mauritania and the Algerian-supported Saharan independence movement known as the Polisario Front. Spain ceded the northern area of what would be called Western Sahara to Morocco, and gave the southern third of the country to Mauritania in 1976. This decision fractured the Polisario as some leaders supported Moroccan control of the region, while the remaining Polisario members dissented and quickly declared the region to be the independent Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). The Polisario battled both Mauritania and Morocco until Mauritania relinquished its claim to the southern region of the Western Sahara in 1979. Morocco then annexed the entire Western Sahara and a cease-fire between the Polisario and Morocco went into effect in 1991. Morocco continues to administer the Western Sahara and negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario have stalled while the dispute remains unresolved.

MAROKO

When Hassan II died in 1999, his son Mohammad VI became king of Morocco. During his reign, he has helped reform the government and has improved the country's record on human rights. One of the major issues Mohammad VI has tackled throughout his tenure is the growing threat of terrorism from Islamic extremists and groups such as Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). Several bombings in Casablanca in 2003 and 2007 have been blamed on extremists, and two Moroccan men were arrested in connection with the 2004 Madrid train bombings. Morocco also underwent mild political unrest associated with the Arab Spring movement in 2011 as protesters demanded restrictions on the power of the king. In response, Mohammed VI announced the creation of a new constitution which was passed by a referendum vote in July 2011. The constitution shifted some of the powers of the king such as the appointment of government officials to the appointed prime minister and executive branch. Despite occasional unrest in isolated areas like the Rif region and the Western Sahara, Morocco is seen as a stabilizing presence in Africa and the greater Middle East. Efforts to tackle environmental and economic challenges have been welcomed and the country is considered a safe and popular destination for tourists.

Today, Moroccan government is a constitutional monarchy with a multi-party parliament consisting of two elected legislative bodies, the Assembly of Representatives and the Assembly of Councilors. Since April 2017 Saadeddine Othmani has been prime minister of Morocco. The king still holds considerable power in the country and has the ability to appoint or remove the prime minister. He also appoints judges to the country's Supreme Court, the highest judicial body in Morocco.

7th and 8th Centuries AD - Arab invasion; Idris founds the first major Muslim dynasty.



A market in Marrakech

10-17th Centuries - Dynasties and religious movements come and go, including the Almoravid movement which at its peak controlled Morocco and parts of present-day Algeria and Spain.

1904 - France and Spain carve out zones of influence.

1912 - Morocco becomes a French protectorate under the Treaty of Fez.

1956 - End of French protectorate after unrest and strong nationalist sentiment. Spain keeps its two coastal enclaves. Sultan Mohammed becomes king in 1957.

1961 - Death of King Mohammed; King Hassan II comes to power.

1975-76 - Morocco annexes Western Sahara, but faces an ongoing guerrilla battle for independence from local Saharawi people.

MAROKO



King Hassan II of Morocco

1998 - Morocco's first opposition-led government comes to power.

1999 - King Hassan II is succeeded by his son, Mohammed VI.

MAROKO

A chronology of key events:

7th and 8th Centuries AD - Arab invasion; Idris founds the first major Muslim dynasty.

10-17th Centuries - Dynasties and religious movements come and go, including the Almoravid movement which at its peak controlled Morocco and parts of present-day Algeria and Spain.

1860 - Dispute over Spain's Ceuta enclave; Spain declares war, wins a further enclave and an enlarged Ceuta in the settlement.

1884 - Spain creates a protectorate in coastal areas of Morocco.

1904 - France and Spain carve out zones of influence.

1906 - Algeiras Conference in Spain; France and Spain get the go-ahead to police Moroccan ports and collect customs fees.



Spain suppressed an uprising against its rule in northern Morocco in the 1920s

French protectorate

1912 - Morocco becomes a French protectorate under the Treaty of Fez, administered by a French Resident-General. Spain continues to operate its coastal protectorate. The sultan has a largely figurehead role.

1921-6 - Tribal rebellion in Rif mountains is suppressed by French and Spanish troops.

1943 - Istiqlal - Party of Independence - founded to press for independence.

1956 March - End of French protectorate after unrest and strong nationalist sentiment. Spain keeps its two coastal enclaves. Sultan Mohammed becomes king in 1957.



1930: France's Resident-General decorates the future King Hassan II

MAROKO

1961 - Death of King Mohammed; King Hassan II comes to power.

1963 - First general elections.

1965 - Social unrest: King Hassan declares a state of emergency and suspends parliament.

1971 - Failed attempt to depose king and establish republic.

Polisario movement

1973 - Polisario movement formed, aims to establish an independent state in Spanish Sahara, a territory south of Morocco controlled by Spain. The group has Algerian support.

1975 6 November - The Green March: King Hassan orders 350,000 civilian volunteers to cross into Spanish Sahara.

1975 December - Spain agrees to leave Spanish Sahara, soon to become Western Sahara, and to transfer it to joint Moroccan-Mauritanian control. Algeria objects and threatens military intervention. Moroccan forces enter and occupy the territory.

1976 - Moroccan and Algerian troops clash in Western Sahara. Algeria announces the formation of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) with a government-in-exile. Morocco and Mauritania divide-up Western Sahara.

1976 onwards - Fighting between Moroccan military and Polisario forces; the war is a considerable financial drain on Morocco.

1983 - Summit between King Hassan and Algerian president prompts thaw in relations.

1983 - King cancels planned elections amid political unrest and economic crisis.

1984 - Morocco leaves the Organisation of African Unity in protest at the SADR's admission to the body. Polisario claims to have killed more than 5,000 Moroccan soldiers between 1982-85.

1988 - Resumption of full diplomatic relations with Algeria.

Conflict over Western Sahara



- Polisario soldiers seeking independence waged a guerrilla war against Morocco
- 1991: Cease-fire

Western Sahara profile

'Africa's last colony'

MAROKO

Sahara ceasefire

1991 - UN-monitored ceasefire begins in Western Sahara, but the territory's status remains undecided and ceasefire violations are reported. The following decade sees much wrangling over a proposed referendum on the future of the territory but the deadlock is not broken.

1998 - Morocco's first opposition-led government comes to power.

1999 - King Hassan II is succeeded by his son, Mohammed VI.

2001 November - King Mohammed starts a controversial tour of Western Sahara, the first by a Moroccan monarch for a decade.

2002 July - Morocco and Spain agree to US-brokered resolution over the disputed island of Perejil. Spanish troops had taken the normally-uninhabited island after Moroccan soldiers landed on it and set up tents and a flag.

2002 December - Morocco and Spain hold their first talks since their conflict over Perejil. In January 2003 they agree to return ambassadors.

2003 February - Casablanca court jails three Saudi members of al-Qaeda for 10 years after they were accused of plotting to attack US and British warships in the Straits of Gibraltar.

Casablanca bombings

2003 May - More than 40 killed when suicide bombers attack several sites in Casablanca, including a Spanish restaurant and Jewish community centre.

2004 February - Powerful earthquake hits the north; more than 500 people are killed.

2004 July - Free trade agreement with the US comes into effect. It follows Washington's designation of Morocco as a major non-Nato ally.

2005 September-October - Hundreds of African migrants try to storm Morocco's borders with the Spanish enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta. Morocco deports hundreds of the illegal migrants.



GETTY IMAGES
Suicide bombers killed 43 people in the 2003 Casablanca attacks

MAROKO

2005 December - Truth commission investigating human rights abuses during the rule of King Hassan II says 592 people were killed between 1956-99.

2006 January - Spanish Premier Zapatero visits the Spanish enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta. He's the first Spanish leader in 25 years to make an official visit to the territories.

2007 April - Three suspected suicide bombers blow themselves up in Casablanca, a few weeks after a suicide blast in an internet cafe weeks earlier.

Two suicide bombers blow themselves up outside US diplomatic offices in Casablanca.

Morocco unveils an autonomy blueprint for Western Sahara to the United Nations. Independence movement Polisario rejects the plan and puts forwards its own proposal.

2007 June - Morocco and the Polisario Front hold UN-sponsored talks in New York but fail to come to any agreement.

2007 September - Parliamentary elections. The conservative Istiqlal party, a member of the ruling coalition, wins the most votes.

2007 November - Spanish King Juan Carlos visits Ceuta and Melilla, angering Morocco which demands the return of the enclaves.

Moves against militants

2008 April - Spanish police arrest two Moroccans wanted over 2003 Casablanca bombings, plan extradition.

2008 September - Fouad Ali al-Himma, a confidant of King Mohammed, forms an alliance around his new Authenticity and Modernity Party. The party has the potential to dominate parliament.

Court sentences more than 40 people to long prison sentences over Casablanca internet cafe suicide bombing that injured three.

2008 December - Two Moroccan men, Abdelilah Ahriz and Hicham Ahmidan, sentenced to 20 and 10 years in jail respectively in Morocco over Madrid train bombings of 2004.

2009 February - Islamist Saad Housseini given 15-year sentence over 2003 Casablanca bombings that killed 45 people. Also wanted in Spain over Madrid bombings.

2009 July - Alleged al-Qaeda leader in Morocco, Belgian-Moroccan Abdelkader Belliraj, imprisoned for life on being found guilty of leading an Islamist militant group and committing six murders in Belgium.

2010 November - Security forces storm a protest camp in disputed territory of Western Sahara, triggering violent demonstrations in regional capital Elayoun.

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"Arab Spring" protests

2011 February - Thousands of people rally in Rabat and other cities calling for political reform and a new constitution curbing the powers of the king.

2011 April - 17 people - mainly foreigners - are killed in a bomb attack on a Marrakech cafe. It is Morocco's deadliest blast in eight years. The Maghreb arm of al-Qaeda denies involvement.

2011 July - King Mohammed scores a landslide victory in a referendum on a reformed constitution he proposed to placate "Arab Spring" protests. Demonstrators continue to call for deeper reforms.

2011 October - Court sentences man to death for bombing of tourist cafe in Marrakech in April.

2011 November - Parliamentary elections won by moderate Islamist Justice and Development Party (PJD).



2012 January - New coalition headed by PJD leader Abdelilah Benkirane is installed.

2012 May - Tens of thousands take part in Casablanca trade union rally, the largest since the new government took office in January. Participants accuse Prime Minister Benkirane of failing to deliver on reforms.

2013 January - Government backs changing penal code article that allows rapists of underage girls to avoid prosecution by marrying their victims. Follows suicide of 16-year-old girl forced to marry her rapist.

2013 April - Morocco cancels joint military exercises with the US over Washington's backing for UN monitoring of human rights in Western Sahara. Morocco calls the proposed monitoring an attack on its sovereignty.

2013 October - King appoints new government following a power-sharing deal forged by Prime Minister Abdelilah Benkirane months after his governing coalition was hit by the resignation of one of its partners.

2013 September - News site editor Ali Anouzla arrested for publishing a video which was attributed to Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and which accused the king of being corrupt and oppressive.

2014 February - Morocco suspends judicial co-operation with France following a diplomatic row over lawsuits in Paris that accuse the kingdom's intelligence chief Abdellatif Hammouchi of complicity in torture.

2014 May - Spain says a thousand migrants tried to enter the Spanish territory of Melilla, in North Africa, from Morocco.

Close ties



King Mohammed VI, right, meets Spain's King Juan Carlos on his state visit to Morocco in July 2013. The trip reflected close ties between Morocco and its biggest trading partner.

MAROKO

2014 October - Morocco summons the Algerian ambassador after a shooting incident at the border. The borders between Morocco and Algeria have been closed since 1994, and relations have remained tense because of the longstanding dispute over the territory of Western Sahara.

2014 November - Morocco is disqualified from the 2015 African Cup of Nations after refusing to host the tournament over concerns about the spread of ebola.

2015 March - Government says security services dismantle network of militants linked to Islamic State group.

2015 February - Authorities destroy makeshift migrant camps near the Spanish enclave of Melilla, after hundreds storm the border fence trying to reach Europe.

2016 March - Morocco expels more than 80 UN staff in Western Sahara, reacting angrily to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's use of the word "occupation" to describe Rabat's 1975 annexation of the area.

2016 October - Parliamentary elections. King picks Abdelilah Benkirane for a second term as prime minister after his party wins the most seats.

2016 October-November - Large-scale protests after a fish seller in al-Hoceima was crushed to death in a rubbish truck as he tried to retrieve fish confiscated by police.

2017 March - King Mohammed dismisses Abdelilah Benkirane from his post as prime minister, due to his failure to form a coalition government. King chooses former PDJ secretary-general Saad-Eddine El Othmani as his successor.

2017 May - New wave of demonstrations in al-Hoceima over long-standing economic grievances.

MAROKO

Rabat
الرباط *ar-Rabāt*



MAROKO

 A map of Morocco showing its regional divisions. The capital, Rabat, is marked with a red dot and labeled. The map is set against a light blue background representing the Atlantic Ocean to the west and the Mediterranean Sea to the north.	Negara	 Maroko
	Region	Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaer
	Dibentuk pertama	Abad ke-3 SM
	Pemerintahan	
	• Jenis	Monarki
	• ruler	Mohammed VI
	• walikota	Fathallah Oualalou ^[1]
	Luas	
	• Kota	1.088.77 km ² (142,778 sq mi)
	• Darat	634.5 km ² (245 sq mi)
Ketinggian ^[2]	75 m (246 ft)	
Penduduk (2010)		
• Kota	650 000	
• Kepadatan	5.321/km ² (13,780/sq mi)	
• Kota	1,787,307	
Situs web	http://www.rabat.ma/ 	

MAROKO

INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL ISSUES

Morocco currently claims and administers the Western Sahara, whose sovereignty remains unresolved, resulting in a large refugee population. The Polisario Front continues to claim the region as the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, and is still supported by Algeria with its headquarters in Tindouf, Algeria. Many nations reject Moroccan administration of the Western Sahara and 41 nations including Mauritania, Mali, Algeria, Mexico and Venezuela recognize the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, represented by the Polisario. Most of the 102,000 Sahrawi refugees are sheltered in camps in Tindouf, Algeria; the Polisario administers these camps.

Morocco protests Spain's control over the northern coastal enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, though this dispute has remained subordinate to the otherwise strong relationship between Morocco and Spain. The enclaves are often used as way points by human traffickers smuggling African migrants to Europe.

Algeria's border with Morocco remains a problem for bilateral relations, as each nation accuses the other of harboring militants and fostering complacency towards arms smuggling. Algeria closed its border with Morocco following the outbreak of the Algerian civil war in 1994 and the border has since remained closed. Nevertheless, Morocco and Algeria have maintained diplomatic relations since resolving some of their issues over the status of the Western Sahara in 1988.

MAROKO

With a high unemployment rate of 10% — nearly 20% for those under 24 — and high poverty rates particularly in rural areas, Morocco, like other countries in the Middle East, has a large and under-served youth population. That, coupled with its proximity to war-torn Libya, where the emergence of the Islamic State in North Africa, could portend future threats to Morocco's relative stability. The country has been affected by intermittent terrorist attacks; Casablanca was bombed in 2003 while Djema El Fna square in Marrakesh was heavily damaged in 2011.

Another recent regional development is Morocco's membership in the African Union and ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States). In January 2017, Morocco was allowed to rejoin the African Union after a 33-year absence, despite resistance from several member states over the status of Western Sahara. Subsequently in June, the West African regional group ECOWAS in principle approved Morocco's membership application despite the country being in North Africa. Some ECOWAS leaders meeting in Liberia said the implications of its membership still needed to be considered before Morocco could formally join. King Mohammed VI was not at the summit because Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had been invited. Morocco left the continental body in 1984 after ECOWAS recognized the independence of Western Sahara. The provisional membership is being stymied by disapproval from member state Nigeria, the strongest economic player in ECOWAS, who see Morocco as a threat to their influence. Morocco seeks to benefit from trade partnerships with other African states through membership in these regional blocs.

MAROKO

ECONOMY

Morocco's economy has been steadily improving since the turn of the millennium, and King Mohammed VI inherited a fairly stable economy. Over the past three years (2015, 2016, and 2017) the GDP real growth rate has been 4.6%, 1.2%, and 4.8% respectively. Following a sharp decrease in growth in 2016, the real GDP growth rate reached 4.8% in 2017, driven by the significant production in the agricultural sector. Throughout 2017, unemployment increased from 9.9 in 2016 to 10.2 per cent in 2017. According to the World Bank, these figures run rampant among youth, the educated, and women (26.5, 17.9, and 14.7 per cent respectively). Morocco, despite economic reforms, continues to struggle to foster inclusive growth. As a result, the real GDP growth rate is projected to decline to 3% in 2018.

A large stride for the Moroccan economy was made in 2014 when subsidies on gasoline and industrial fuel were removed. In the same time period, Morocco launched the "Industrial Acceleration Plan" (IPA) which ensured that over 300,000 new industry jobs would be created by 2020. Since its establishment, 120,000 jobs have been created, while 307,000 are engaged, totaling 427,000 posts. These figures transcend Rabat's initial benchmark.

MAROKO

The most critical challenges facing Morocco include a lack of transparency, corruption, high unemployment and illiteracy rates, and finally, a very difficult regional environment. The judicial system remains susceptible to political influence, which is undermining ongoing anti-corruption efforts. Unemployment in Morocco is 10% overall, but near 20% for young people under the age of 24. The figure is not quite as staggering as in neighboring countries, which faced much harsher demonstrations in 2011 during the "Arab Spring", but it still remains a big problem for Morocco's economy. Following the Arab Spring, Rabat pursued wide-scale economic and social reform to tackle the overwhelming unemployment and poverty rates. This has contributed to a decrease in the number of poor people, from 8.9 per cent of the population in 2007 to 4.2 per cent in 2014. Over the past few months, Morocco faced pressure from the population of the Jerada province (Northeastern Morocco) attributable to the continued economic and social marginalization of the Rif region. The government, in response, proposed an economic plan to tackle Jerada's shortcomings. Structural reform is still needed in areas such as education, governance, and justice in order to reduce unemployment.

To boost exports, Morocco entered into a bilateral Free Trade Agreement with the United States in 2006 and an Advanced Status agreement with the EU in 2008. Due to low energy reserves, Morocco has scaled up green initiative and growth programs to combat the detrimental environmental effects of hydrocarbon imports. Morocco also seeks to expand its renewable energy capacity with a goal of making renewable more than 50% of installed electricity generation capacity by 2030. **Al-Akhawayn University** in Ifrane built the first solar-energy site in Africa to generate electricity using photovoltaics. In 2013 King Mohammed VI launched a huge and impressive project to construct the world's largest concentrated solar power plant. According to the World Bank, the planned **Noor Complex Solar Power Plant** is expected to reduce Morocco's fossil fuel dependence by two and a half million tons of oil and to supply electricity to 1.1 million Moroccans.

MAROKO

Tourism is one of the country's primary industries. In fact, tourism has increased rapidly from 2,602,000 tourism arrivals in 1995 to 9,299,000 in 2010, making it the 24th largest tourist market in the world and the second largest among the Arab countries, after Egypt. In 2014, Rabat published Vision 2020 with the ambitious goal of making Morocco one of the world's top 20 touristic destinations, as well as a model of sustainable development. Morocco integrated green initiatives into the tourism sector by launching ecotourism in the Atlas Mountains (ecolodges and desert resorts).

MAROKKO

SOCIETY



Throughout history, different ethnic groups have inhabited Morocco. These include the indigenous Amazigh population (popularly referred to as Berbers), Arabs, Romans, Portuguese, Spaniards, Turks, Phoenicians, Jews and the French. Nearly the entirety of the population (99%) is a mix of both Arab and Berber ethnic groups. Morocco's estimated population is 35,238,538 as of 2015, and is growing at a rate of about 1.22% each year. Arabic and Tamazight (a dialect of Berber) are the official languages of Morocco; French is often used in business, government, and diplomatic settings. English is also a popular language in schools and among the youth.

Once home to some 300,000 Jews, the largest population in the Arab world, Morocco is increasingly taking a fresh look at its long history with Judaism and is spurning the wholesale rejection of Judaism, Hebrew, Jewish people, and even Israel that is often common in other Arab countries.

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An Example of Tamazight Language Writing

MAROKO



74years

Average Life Expectancy (Men)



80years

Average Life Expectancy (Women)

Despite reforms in education in 2004, such as the **National Literacy and Non-formal Education Strategy**, the quality of education in Morocco needs improvements, according to the Human Development Index (HDI). This index measures life expectancy, education and income for the United Nations Development Program and Morocco is ranked 123 of 186. The average life expectancy is 74 years for men and 80 for women, and the literacy rate in Morocco is 79% for men and 59% for women. The Moroccan government has been working with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to improve its educational system. Morocco is rising in the ranks on the HDI, having moved from 129 in 2015 to 123 in 2017.

MAROKO

Education in Morocco is divided into primary and secondary stages. Primary school is free and compulsory for nine years from the ages of 7 to 15. The compulsory requirement is often not enforceable in the remote areas of the Atlas Mountains, but the completion rate of primary school has risen to 80% in 2005 from 47% in 1991, according to data from UNESCO. Secondary school is also free, but not compulsory, and lasts for an additional three years following primary school. Higher education, also known as the tertiary level, can be pursued at any of Morocco's 14 public universities and many other private universities, vocational schools, and technical schools. Among the most distinguished universities are the Mohammed V University in Rabat, the American-style university Al-Akawayn in Ifrane, and the University of Al Karaouine in Fez, considered by UNESCO to be the oldest continuously operating university in the world.

Healthcare in Morocco suffers from dated practices and equipment, as well as limited accessibility. In more remote areas in the Atlas Mountains, access to medical facilities is extremely poor. According to Health Ministry figures from other North African countries, Morocco has one doctor per 1,600 inhabitants, compared with one for every 800 people in Tunisia and one for every 600 in Algeria. Nearly a third of Moroccans also have little or no access to proper sanitation, putting them at risk of illnesses such as gastrointestinal infections, typhoid, malaria, and trachoma. Tuberculosis also remains widespread, with 26,000 cases reported in 2015 by the World Health Organization (WHO). The Moroccan Ministry of Health is working with the WHO to implement a universal healthcare system, as currently only about half of the population can afford either private or public insurance.

MAROKO

RELIGION

The Moroccan constitution proclaims Islam as the state religion and it is practiced by 99% of Moroccans. Almost all Muslims in Morocco follow the Sunni branch of Islam and King Mohammed VI claims to be a direct descendant of the prophet Mohammad.

About 1% of the population practices Christianity, which expanded first under Roman rule and again during Spanish and French colonization. The CIA World FactBook also estimates that the country has about 6,000 Jews who are predominantly descendants of those who migrated to the region following the destruction of the Second Jewish temple in the Roman province of Palestine in 70 CE. Jewish quarters, known as Mellah, once thrived in numerous cities but the majority of Morocco's Jews have immigrated to Israel. There are still small but aging Jewish communities in several cities with well-preserved houses of worship and cemeteries. Moroccan Jews who have settled in Israel returning to visit ancestral homes help drive the tourism industry. Moroccans are free to practice any religion they choose, although it is illegal for Muslims to renounce Islam or for anyone to proselytize religions other than Islam. A 2014 documentary, "Tinghir-Jerusalem: Echoes from the Mellah," explores the connections shared between a lively indigenous in the Atlas mountains and aging group of Berber-speaking Jews in Israel who left Morocco in the 1960s.



MAROKO

CULTURE

Moroccan culture is influenced by Arab, Islamic, African, Berber, and European traditions. Its mix of Sufi-like spirituality, more relaxed and open Maliki school of Islam, African and Berber legacies, and European style of administration is unlike any other country.

Beginning in the 1940s, Paul Bowles and other Beat artists like William Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg were drawn to the country for its heterogeneous and underground culture. These writers brought attention to the country through their literary works and collaborations with Moroccan artists. The port city of Tangier was a particularly popular destination. During the 1950s and 60s Morocco became a literary sanctuary. Many native Moroccans also bloomed during this time, including Driss El Khorri, Mohamed Choukri and Driss Chraïbi. Authors such as Mohamed Zefzaf and Abdellah Laroui are noted for writing in Arabic. Driss Chraïbi made a massive impact on the Moroccan public with his French novel "Le Passe Simple", or "The Past Tense", that was published in 1954 and condemned patriarchal society.

Clothing

The standard article of clothing in Morocco for both men and women is known as the djellaba. Men wear this loose-fitting robe in muted colors of brown, gray, and green. The djellaba has long sleeves and a hood. Men may be seen wearing the small red cap known as a tarboosh, or fez, on special occasions but more often adorn the kufi skullcap. Brimless hats are common in the region as they are less likely to interfere with the bowing associated with daily prayers than brimmed hats.

Women often wear their own version of the djellaba. These are typically more colorful and decorative than their male counterparts, and sometimes feature silk thread and gold embroidery. Women also occasionally wear a haik, a cloak of fine white cloth worn around the head and body. The haik is often found in rural areas away from the metropolitan lifestyle of the city. Other types of modest clothing such as kaftans, long skirts and tunics are common as is Western attire. Veiling is a personal or family matter in which the state is not involved. People living in rural areas tend to dress more conservatively than in cities.

MAROKO

Food

Moroccan cuisine is quite different than Levantine Middle Eastern food like hummus, falafel, or shwarma. A large variety of spices from the Mediterranean region are used such as cinnamon, cumin, turmeric, and coriander in Moroccan dishes. Couscous is a traditional Moroccan Berber dish featuring tiny balls of pasta served with stewed meat, vegetables and a flavorful broth. Chicken, lamb, and seafood dishes featuring kabobs are also popular. In Morocco, these are referred to as *kefta* or *brochettes*, sausages are also common.

The Moroccan national dish is called *tagine*, named for the large clay pot in which it is cooked. The dish is a spiced stew which includes vegetables and beef, lamb, or chicken. A common tagine is one made with preserved lemons and green olives. Moroccan flat bread (khobz) is served with almost every meal and often is used to scoop food in place of utensils. Morocco is known for its pastries but in homes, families generally eat fresh fruits, like citrus and melons, for dessert.

Moroccan mint tea is the most ubiquitous beverage throughout the country. Using Chinese gunpowder tea, fresh spearmint, and copious amounts of sugar, the drink is boiled several times to maximize the flavors. It is served at every occasion. Morocco's location in Africa, adjacent to Europe, and on many trade routes from the east, meant that its culture and cuisine reflect a fascinating amalgamation that its people have perfected over time into unmistakably Moroccan traditions.



MAROKKO

Music



Moroccans generate several diverse musical styles which highlight the country's historical complexity. The Berber musical style is community oriented and is performed in open air village squares. This music features flutes and drums and is usually played at large ceremonies such as weddings or festivals. Another traditional style of music is *milhun*, a type of classical poetry that is sung and typically associated with traders and artisans. The lyrics feature popular folk poems or Islamic verses. This music is traditionally accompanied by an orchestra which utilizes the stringed oud, different varieties of flutes, and several types of cymbals.

MAROKO

A popular musical style which mixes rural and urban folk music is known as *chaabi*. Chaabi music is often seen in communities along the Atlantic coast, and is sometimes performed during private and public celebrations. This music features both a male and female lead singer with a violin and backup vocal accompaniment. Today, this style has incorporated modern musical technology by adding keyboards and electric guitars.

Although more commonly found in Algeria, the *rai* musical style also enjoys popularity in Morocco. This hip-hop style has spread throughout North Africa; its lyrics often mention social issues such as the negative influences of the European world on Morocco and state abuse of power.

MAROKO

Gnaoua (Gnawa) music is unique to Morocco though its popularity has spread to surrounding countries and the Diaspora. Heavily influenced by African traditions and instruments, the mystical style was developed among former sub-Saharan African slave communities in Morocco. Consisting of ancient African Islamic spiritual songs, the genre is characterized by its use of repetition and castanets. Groups are led by masters, known as "maâlems", and consist of several members who clap, dance, and accompany their leader vocally and instrumentally. Gnaouan musicians can often be identified by their dress, typically appearing in matching djellaba and ornate caps with tassels. An example can be seen in the left image above.

The style is very popular among Moroccans and what was once a spiritual experience has become more profane. The tradition is highlighted each summer year in the southern coastal town of Essaouira at the Gnaoua World Music Festival. The festival provides a platform for exchanges and a meeting point of music and dialogue between foreign artists and the mystical Gnaoua. In this celebration of musical fusion, the Gnaoua masters invite players of jazz, pop, rock and contemporary world music to explore new avenues of collaboration. The festival attracts up to 500,000 visitors every year over four days. Le Festival des Musiques Sacrées du Monde (World Sacred Music Festival) is a week-long annual event featuring international spiritual, religious and folk music in the ancient city of Fes. The festival began in 1994 and continues to this day.

MAROKKO

Art



Morocco has a rich history of artistic expression. Colorful artistic patterns adorn the walls of mosques and shops throughout the country and often utilize repetitions of simple shapes and designs to form complex mosaics. One such design is known as *zillij*. Zillij is an Islamic tile artwork that was designed to inspire meditation while adhering to Islamic restrictions on visual depictions of representational art. Artists chisel a single colored tile into a precise shape and then replicate this process hundreds of times to create intricate patterns and tessellations. Carpet weaving is also a popular form of art in Morocco and an important source of income for some families. Traditional Berber carpets are often woven together from camel hair or sheep wool and use saffron, mint or pomegranate to add vibrant colors to the yarn. Designs depict daily life but may also feature local tribal motifs. Travelers can often buy these colorful woven carpets and prayer rugs in souks (marketplaces), which are a common site in Moroccan cities. The process of selecting a carpet and negotiating its price with the carpet sellers is an art form in and of itself.

MAROKO

The country is also home to several museums which feature displays of historical relics and artwork from leading Moroccan artists. The Museum of Antiquities, located in Tangier, once served as the kitchen for the Sultan's palace and today houses numerous artifacts from the time of the Romans. One such artifact is a model of a Carthaginian tomb in one of the museum's main rooms. The Marrakech Museum also features architecture and mosaics from all periods of Moroccan history. These exhibits occupy the Dar Menebhi Palace, which was built in the 19th century and was converted into a museum in 1997. The interior walls of the palace are lavishly decorated with mosaics and works of Islamic calligraphy and the site is known as the "jewel of Marrakech."

Confirming Morocco's reputation as a source of creativity and artistic production, the city of Asilah, on the northwest coast, invites Moroccan and international artists to decorate its white walls each year with bright and elaborate murals. The **annual festival** attracts visitors from around the world and has gained significant interest in contemporary arts media and communities.

MAROKO

Sites



Morocco is home to many popular sites which highlight the diverse history and geography of the region. These vary from religious sites to natural landscapes and architectural wonders. Mausoleums of venerated religious and national leaders are common destinations in Morocco. One such site is the Mausoleum of Mohammad V, completed in 1971, in the capital city of Rabat. This is the final resting place for King Mohammed V and his sons. It features ornate marble carvings of Islamic calligraphy and zillij tile mosaics. The mausoleum was constructed on the site of an unfinished mosque and some relics, like the unfinished Hassan minaret, still adorn the scenery around the mausoleum.

MAROKO

One of the most exquisite displays of natural beauty is the Menara Gardens just west of Marrakech. Located on the foothills of the Atlas Mountains, these gardens were designed and built in the 12th century during the rule of the Almohads. The orchards of the garden feature olive, cypress, and fruit trees and the site holds a large reservoir at its center for irrigation. Morocco is also home to many prominent mosques, including the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca. Completed in 1993, this mosque is the largest mosque in Morocco and it is the 7th largest in the world, and features the tallest minaret which stands at 210 meters (689 ft). The building and surrounding courtyard can accommodate up to 105,000 worshippers, and much of the structure extends into the Atlantic Ocean.

Morocco also holds an important site in the early history of the United States as Morocco was the first country to recognize the newly independent American colonies in 1777. In 1821, Sultan Moulay Suleiman of Morocco gave the country its first diplomatic property in Tangier, which became America's first public property in another country. The building stood as the American consulate until 1956 and was converted into a library and education center that houses the Tangier American Legation Institute for Moroccan Studies. The institute serves as a museum and a cultural center with artifacts from the long history of U.S.-Moroccan relations.

The Mausoleum of Mohammed V, which was completed in 1971, contains the tombs of King Mohammed V and his two sons, King Hassan II and Prince Abdallah. It is located next to the Hassan Tower on the Yacoub al-Mansour esplanade. The building is considered a masterpiece of modern Alaouite dynasty architecture, with its white silhouette, topped by a typical green tiled roof. The Mausoleum is richly decorated with elaborate zellij mosaics from floor to ceiling. The Hassan Tower or Tour Hassan is the minaret of an incomplete mosque, whose construction started in 1195 but was never completed.



01 Street and Mausoleum



02 Guard in red uniform on horse



03 Guard in red uniform on horse



04 Main entrance and uniformed guards



05 Tour Hassan minaret



06 Tour Hassan minaret



07 Tour Hassan and mosque ruins



08 Fence shadow



09 Red wall and gate



10 Red wall and gates



11 Decorated brass pot



12 Guard in red uniform



13 Mausoleum building



14 Mausoleum building

MAROKO



The Menara Gardens in Marrakech were constructed during the early years of the Almohad dynasty. In 1147, Almohad forces under Caliph 'Abd al-Mu'min (reg. 1130-1163) conquered the Almoravid capital of Marrakech. Between 1147 and his death in 1163, 'Abd al-Mu'min undertook several large building projects in the city, which became the capital of his empire. The Menara Gardens and its large central reservoir were built during this period to serve as both productive orchards and personal pleasure gardens for the caliph. The gardens were maintained during the centuries after Almohad rule by the Marinids and the Sa'did Sharifs, and a pavilion structure originally erected by the Sa'dis was rebuilt by 'Alawid Sharif Moulay Muhammad bin 'Abd al-Rahman (reg. 1859-1873) in the late nineteenth century.

The Menara Gardens are approximately 720 meters wide east to west and 1.25 kilometers long north to south. The