

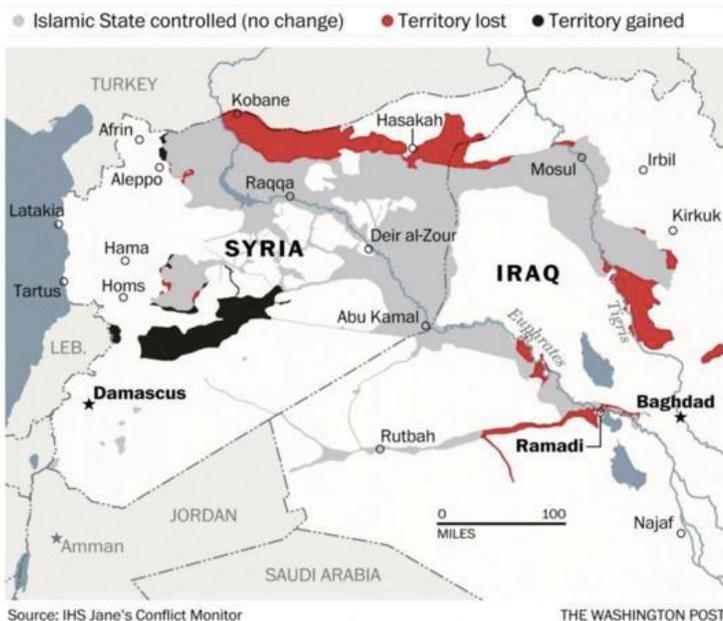
## ***Blindsided: How ISIS Shook the World***

By CNN, 43 minutes, on Youtube.com

**Background:** Al Qaeda traces its roots back into the 1990s and carried out the attacks of 9/11. The US invaded Afghanistan to crush Al Qaeda in 2001 and then invaded Iraq in 2003 to get rid of dictator Saddam Hussein. He was a Sunni Muslim and controlled Iraq including all the Shia Muslims with brutal force (the majority of Iraqis are Shia). America destroyed Hussein's Iraqi government quickly but chaos soon emerged and fighting erupted between Sunni and Shia as well as against American forces. Hussein was captured in 2004 by US forces and hanged by an Iraqi court in 2006. During this time a new group, led by a Sunni Muslim named Al Zarqawi emerged in Iraq. He called the group Al Qaeda in Iraq. This group published videos of beheadings of Americans and Shia Iraqi's that shocked many in the west. The group continued to grow. Chaos continued but was eventually quelled somewhat as the new Iraqi government tried to establish itself. US military forces began to withdraw slowly but at the same time were training and equipping the new Iraqi military and police forces so that nation would be strong enough to stand on its own when America left. The US withdrew its military forces in late 2011. Meanwhile ISIS began to grow and fight against the Shia government in Iraq. As they captured Shia controlled towns they also got the weapons the Iraqi army left behind and ISIS continued to grow in power. ISIS took Iraq's second largest city of Mosul in 2014 and still controls it. ISIS has also expanded its territory into Syria and is allied with other groups trying to overthrow the Shia, Syrian government.

Finally, Islam is divided into two main branches: Sunni and Shia. About 85% of the world's Muslims are Sunni and 15% are Shia. There has been conflict between the two branches for 1,300 years. Most Shia live in Iraq, Iran, Syria, Pakistan and India. In Iraq, especially since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2004, the conflict has been deadly as Sunni kill Shia and vice versa.

### **The Islamic State in 2015**



## Terms from: *CNN Blindsided How ISIS Shook the World*

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**Directions:** *These terms are used throughout the video we will watch but more importantly are essential to understanding the news involving ISIS. Read through them and then we will pair up and quiz each other. There will be a quiz over the terms.*

- **the West** - a term describing the democratic and secular nations of Europe and the America's
- **state** - in this case it refers to a nation or government and not a state you hear about in the USA
- **ISIS, (aka IS or ISIL)** – Islamic State of Syria and Iraq
- **IS** – Islamic State
- **ISIL** – Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
- **Sunni** – dominant branch of Islam around the world but a minority group in Iraq, Iran and Syria
- **Shia** -- minority branch of Islam but the majority in Iraq, Iran and Syria
- **Saddam Hussein** – Sunni dictator of Iraq from 1979-2003. As a Sunni Muslim Hussein brutally put down Shia Muslims even though the vast majority of Iraqis are Shia.
- **propaganda** -- one sided information meant to sway someone's opinion or move them to action
- **Al Qaeda** – global terrorist organization started by Osama bin Laden in the 1990s, carried out the 9/11 attacks
- **caliphate** – an Islamic state of the Muslim faithful and led by a Caliph, the caliphate established by ISIS stretches from northern Iraq and into Syria
- **insurgent** - rebel, someone fighting against their own government
- **Al Baghdadi** -- the caliph (leader) of ISIS, Sunni
- **jihad** – holy war
- **Zarqawi** --- started Al Qaeda in Iraq which changed into ISIS over time, Sunni
- **Maliki** – Prime Minister of Iraq, took power in 2006, Shia Muslim

## Blindsided: How ISIS Shook the World

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### 0:00 – 11:50 Journalist's visit to ISIS controlled city & US invasion of Iraq, start of ISIS

1. When he investigated ISIS in Mosul, Jurgen Todenhofer found that:
  - A) ISIS has schools and cops
  - B) no one in Mosul likes ISIS
  - C) no foreigners were ISIS members
2. Todenhofer found that ISIS is unlike Al Qaeda because ISIS wants to:
  - A) only kill Shia Muslims
  - B) build a caliphate
  - C) negotiate with Iran
3. ISIS wants to provoke America into:
  - A) a ground war with ISIS
  - B) leaving Iraq and Syria
  - C) entering the Syrian civil war
4. Al Qaeda's largest terrorist attack was:
  - A) 9/11
  - B) Tanzanian bombings
  - C) the *USS Cole*
5. What is the connection between 9/11 and ISIS? The US invaded Iraq after 9/11 and:
  - A) ISIS shifted from Syria to Iran
  - B) Al Qaeda turned into Hezbollah
  - C) ISIS emerged from the chaos after the invasion
6. Abu Musab al Zarqawi was the leader of Al Qaeda in:
  - A) Pakistan
  - B) Iraq
  - C) Syria
7. Zarqawi's group attacked foreigners and:
  - A) Shia Muslims
  - B) Sunni Muslims
  - C) Kurds

### 12:15 – 23:16 Al Baghdadi (ISIS leader) and ISIS recruiting strategies/social media

8. Al Baghdadi was all of the following **except**:
  - A) the founder of ISIS
  - B) a prisoner set free by Americans
  - C) killed by a US bombing raid

9. Which is a characteristic of ISIS social media strategy?
- A) the use of Twitter, Facebook, etc.
  - B) to keep a low profile on the internet
  - C) cyberwarfare
10. ISIS mainly tries to reach out to what type of person:
- A) purposeless & angry
  - B) middle class & educated
  - C) goal oriented & middle age
11. Victory in Khobani is a:
- A) blend of different US news clips
  - B) sophisticated video aimed at a young audience
  - C) both of the above
12. Many ISIS propaganda videos mix scenes of \_\_?\_\_ with scenes of \_\_?\_\_.
- A) peace, war
  - B) Islam, Christianity
  - C) violence, camaraderie

**23:21 -- 31:34 ISIS and the Obama Administration**

13. Who compared ISIS to a jayvee team?
- A) President Bush
  - B) President Obama
  - C) Anwar al Maliki
14. According to General Flynn and the narrator of this documentary what mistake did the Whitehouse make in regards to ISIS?
- A) overestimated ISIS power
  - B) underestimated ISIS power
  - C) gave ISIS weapons
15. Most critics of the Obama administration's approach to ISIS propose that:
- A) American soldiers should fight ISIS
  - B) to get rid of Assad in Syria
  - C) an alliance with Iran to defeat ISIS
16. This documentary claims the biggest intelligence failure of all was \_\_\_?\_\_\_ Iraqi military strength.
- A) underestimating
  - B) overestimating
  - C) building
17. How did the US trained Iraqi army perform against ISIS fighters?
- A) very well and defeated them soundly
  - B) poorly & basically dropped their weapons and ran
  - C) they never fought against each other

18. A major cause of ISIS emerging so quickly was that Nouri al Maliki failed to:
- A) unite Sunni and Shia
  - B) conquer Syria
  - C) give up power
19. Many Sunni soldiers in Iraq's army refused to fight for Maliki because he was a \_\_?\_ leader.
- A) Shia
  - B) Sunni
  - C) Kurds
20. America left Iraq in:
- A) 2005
  - B) 2011
  - C) 2015
21. Some people believe that if US forces had stayed in Iraq there would be no:
- A) Civil War
  - B) invasion
  - C) ISIS

**31:44 -- 37:32 Inside the mind of an ISIS radical**

22. How many foreign fighters are fighting with ISIS in Iraq and Syria?
- A) none
  - B) 10,000
  - C) 20,000
23. Maajid Nawaz was motivated to join ISIS because he:
- A) was angered at the slaughter of Muslims in the world
  - B) wanted to be with the rest of his family
  - C) was arrested in 2014
24. Thomas Friedman says that men who join ISIS have never:
- A) held a job, power or a girl
  - B) travelled in the west
  - C) left the middle class

**37:42 -42:01 Is ISIS a threat to the American Homeland?**

25. Fareed Zakaria (the narrator) believes all of the following **except**:
- A) ISIS is about power & religion
  - B) ISIS wants a fight with America
  - C) rage of Sunni Muslims will last a long time & continue to motivate ISIS
  - D) Shia Muslims will join with Sunni and make ISIS more powerful
  - E) the greatest threat to ISIS may come from the people they rule

