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**ARMED CONFLICT IN ASIA -
WEST ASIA**

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SYRIAN CONFLICT (2011 - PRESENT)

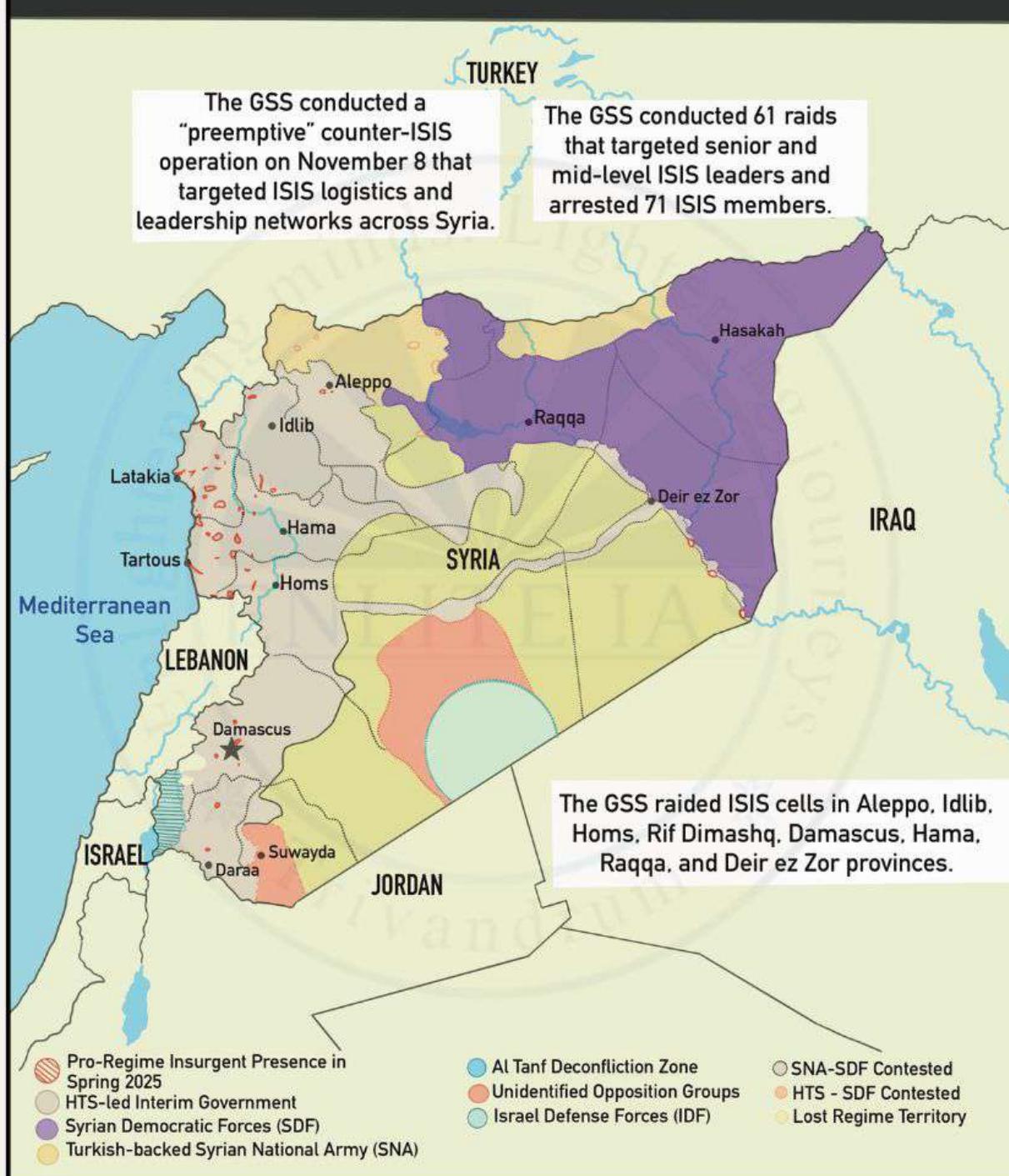
- **Location :** West Asia near Eastern Mediterranean and the Levant.
- **Nature of Conflict:** Multi-sided civil war and proxy war
- **Reasons :**
 1. Authoritarian rule under Bashar al-Assad
 2. Arab Spring protests met with violent repression
 3. Sectarian divide (Alawite-led regime vs Sunni majority)
 4. Economic distress, drought, and unemployment.
- **Parties Involved :**
 1. **Government :** Assad regime, Syrian Arab Army.
 2. **Opposition :** Free Syrian Army, Islamist rebel groups.
 3. **Extremists :** ISIS, Al-Qaeda affiliates.
 4. **Kurds :** YPG / Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).
 5. **External powers :** Russia, Iran, Turkey, USA, Gulf states.
- **Current Status :** Ended in December 2024 with the fall of Bashar al-Assad and the collapse of the Baathist regime, following nearly 61 years of rule. A rebel coalition led by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) seized Damascus.





SYRIAN CONFLICT :

Assessed Control of Terrain in Syria



ISRAEL–GAZA STRIP WAR

- **Location:** West Asia in the Mediterranean Coast

- **Reasons :**

1. Gaza under Israeli–Egyptian blockade since 2007 after Hamas takeover.
2. Long-standing Israel–Palestine conflict (territory, security, statehood).
3. Immediate cause Large-scale Hamas attack on Israel (Oct 2023).

- **Parties Involved :**

- Israel: IDF (air, ground, naval operations).

- Hamas: Rockets, tunnels, guerrilla tactics
- Others: Palestinian Islamic Jihad; regional spillover involving Hezbollah (Lebanon border) and Houthis (Yemen).
- Diplomacy by Egypt, Qatar, US.

- **Present Status :**

- Fighting and localized pauses/ceasefire talks recur intermittently.





YEMEN CIVIL WAR (2014 - PRESENT)

- **Location :** West Asia border Red Sea, Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean.
- **Nature :** Civil War and Proxy War.
- **Causes :**
 - Political transition failure after Arab Spring (2011).
 - Marginalisation of Houthis and weak central authority.
 - Sectarian and tribal rivalries.
 - Regional rivalry (Iran–Saudi) is turning Yemen into a proxy battleground.
- **Parties Involved :**
 - **Houthis (Ansar Allah):** Zaydi Shia rebels; control Sana'a and north-west.
 - **Internationally recognised government:** Backed by Saudi-led coalition.
 - **Saudi-led coalition:** Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates.
 - **External backers:** Iran (Houthis), United States (coalition support).
 - **Others:** Southern Transitional Council (STC), AQAP, ISIS (limited).

YEMEN CIVIL WAR (2014 - PRESENT)

Who controls what in Yemen?

The Houthis control the northwestern region of Yemen, including capital Sanaa, while the Yemeni government controls the south and east, with Aden acting as its temporary capital.

AREAS OF CONTROL

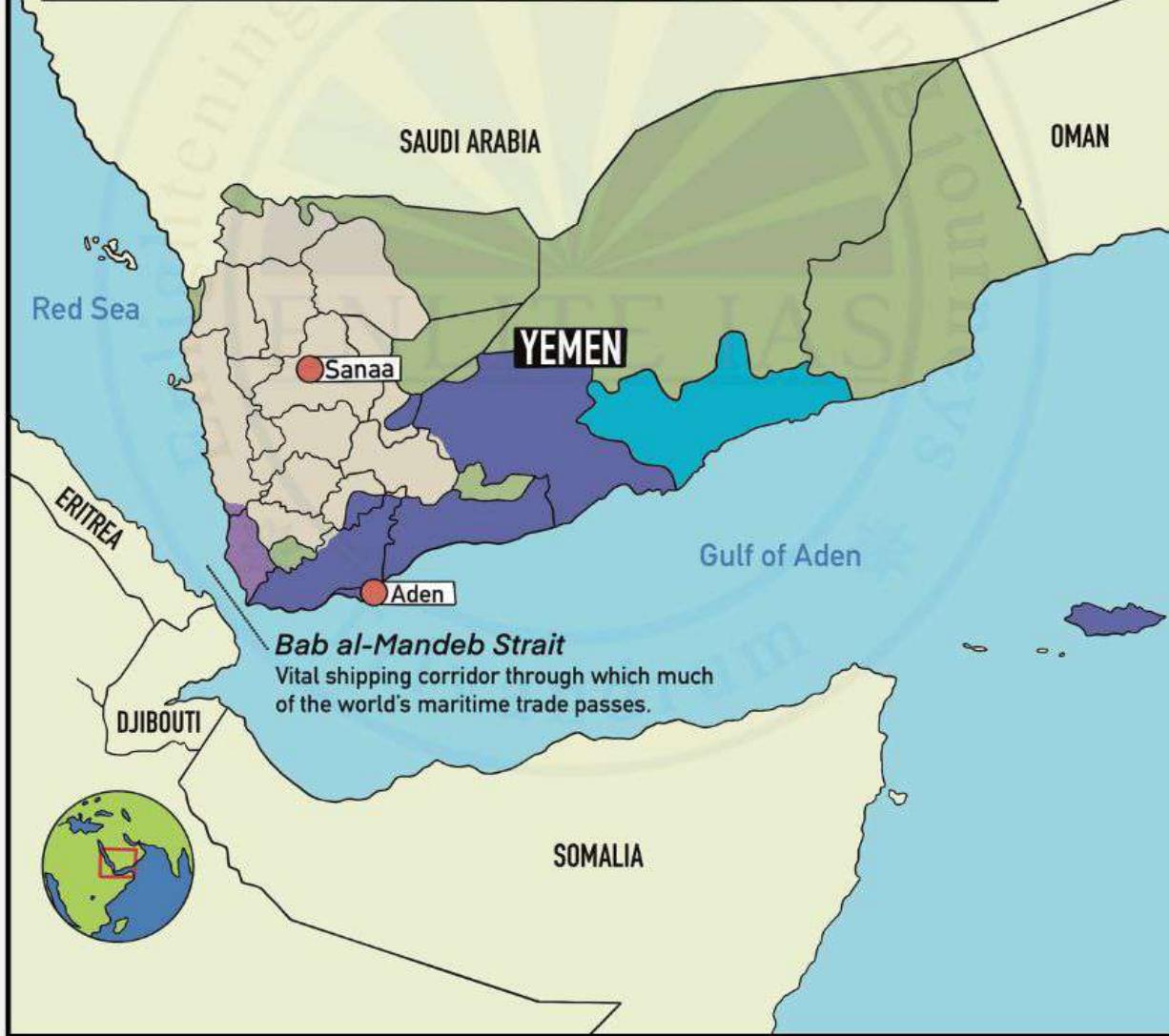
Houthi forces

Southern Transitional Council-affiliated forces

Hadrami Elite Forces

Yemeni National Resistance Forces

Forces aligned with internationally recognized government





ISRAEL-LEBANON CONFLICT:

- **Location :** West Asia
- **Context :** Longstanding disputes over territory, including the Shebaa Farms area.
- **Causes :**
 - Territorial disputes between the parties.
 - Proxy wars involving Hezbollah in the region.
 - Spillover from the Gaza conflicts.
- **Parties Involved :**
 - **Israel :** IDF (air, ground, naval operations)
 - Hezbollah is an Iran-backed non-state actor present in Lebanon, claiming solidarity with Gaza and Palestine.
- **Facts :** The Israel-Lebanon boundary is demarcated by the Blue Line- The UN-verified demarcation.





ISRAEL-LEBANON CONFLICT:

