

Essential Question:
How might having a valuable
natural resource (oil) affect a
region?

Southwest Asia
Miss Beckett's Class
Spring 2008



Southwest Asia

- In Southwest Asia, oil is the major way that many countries make a living and gain wealth.
- In many of these countries, profit from oil wealth is used to improve the standard of living of its citizens.
- In other countries, it is not this way.



3 ways to measure a country's wealth, or "how well the people are living."

■ GDP: The Gross Domestic Product is a measure of the goods and services produced by a country each year.

■ Per Capita GDP:

- is an average

- measures the average income of the people in a country



3 ways to measure a country's wealth, or "how well the people are living."

■ Per Capita GDP continued:

- Calculated by total GDP divided by population.
- Varies from country to country.
- UAE and Kuwait: high GDP from selling oil, both have small populations, so per capita GDP is high.
- Saudi Arabia and Iran: high GDP from selling oil BUT they have large populations so GDP has to be divided among many more people thus lower per capita GDP



3 ways to measure a country's wealth, or "how well the people are living."

■ Per Capita GDP continued:

- Bahrain: smaller oil reserves but per capita GDP is high because it earns money by processing instead of pumping oil.
- Per Capita GDP is an average; it assumes a country's wealth is divided equally among citizens, however, in some cases some people are fabulously rich while others are desperately poor.



3 ways to measure a country's wealth, or "how well the people are living."

- HDI: Human Development Index

- United Nations Human Development Index:

- Looks at a country's GDP

- Looks at life expectancy

- Looks at education:

- how many are literate- able to read

- how many graduate from high school



3 ways to measure a country's wealth, or "how well the people are living."

HDI continued:

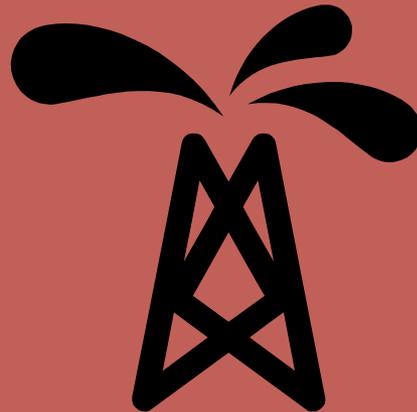
-  countries are ranked with 1 being best
-  Bahrain leads Southwest Asia in terms of living well even though it does not have the most oil or highest per capita GDP, it does use its wealth to educate its population boys and girls attend school.
-  Infant mortality rate is one of the lowest in Southwest Asia



Remember!

Remember to hang on to this packet to help you with both our Press Conference, Newscast, and closing activity this week!

Iraq



Saudi
Arabia

