

# World Conflicts Today™

## Quick Start Guide



### About World Conflicts Today

From the editors of CultureGrams comes a new way for students to understand the world around us: World Conflicts Today. World Conflicts Today explores protracted, unresolved world conflicts that have regional and global implications. **Regions include Afghanistan, Basque country (Spain and France), Chechnya, Colombia, Darfur (Sudan), Iraq, Jammu and Kashmir, Korean Peninsula, Northern Ireland, and the Palestinian Territories.**

Clear, concise, and thorough editorially created materials synthesize the volumes of news articles, treatises, and editorial commentary generated by each conflict over the years—giving students access to digestible quantities of in-depth information for analysis, debate, or research. Review by regional content experts before publication helps ensure unbiased, high-quality coverage, while monthly editorial updates keep students informed about the very latest viewpoints, developments, and negotiations in each conflict.

World Conflicts Today details history, background, obstacles, and implications for all the conflicts, so students can understand what's at stake and what it means for the rest of the world. Intuitive site navigation lets students easily move back and forth between sections, or quick-search the site for targeted keywords.

Additional content to aid student research and add interest includes dynamic features like PowerPoint slide shows, interactive maps, images, timelines, contextual information, statistics, and primary sources. Teaching tools like lesson plans, review questions, and classroom and research activities are included.

### Part 1: Basic Search Techniques

All World Conflicts Today research begins at the main search page. To select a conflict, you may click a Report icon the left side (**A**), or click a hot spot on the world map which contains a conflict summary when moused-over (**B**). You may also select a slideshow (**C**) to obtain a current overview of each conflict.

**World Conflicts Today** Log Off PROQUEST Help ▼

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Afghanistan</b><br>Full Report Slideshow       | <b>Basque Country</b><br>Full Report Slideshow          |
| <b>Chechnya</b><br>Full Report Slideshow          | <b>Colombia</b><br>Full Report Slideshow                |
| <b>Darfur</b><br>Full Report Slideshow            | <b>Iraq</b><br>Full Report Slideshow                    |
| <b>Jammu and Kashmir</b><br>Full Report Slideshow | <b>Korean Peninsula</b><br>Full Report Slideshow        |
| <b>Northern Ireland</b><br>Full Report Slideshow  | <b>Palestinian Territories</b><br>Full Report Slideshow |

A brutal insurgency with elements of a low-intensity civil war.

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## Part 2: Working with a Conflict Report

After clicking on a conflict, the conflict report appears. World Conflicts Today offers an in-depth look at the past and present state of each conflict. The material helps students increase their understanding of each subject, as well as process skills such as reading, writing, research, and discussion across multiple content areas.

The top-level report page includes a four-fold map of the conflict (**D**). Just mouse over the four map links below the world map to zoom in.

**World Conflicts Today** Log Off

Home > Iraq

**Select a Conflict** ▼

- Overview
- History
- Origins
- Developments
- Developments (cont.)
- Recent Events
- Timeline
- Obstacles
- Implications
- Regional
- Global
- Resources
- Key Groups
- Key Individuals
- Statistics
- Primary Sources

World Region Middle East Iraq

Today, Iraqis are caught up in a brutal insurgency as well as a bloody sectarian conflict, which has steadily worsened since a

"These [Americans], as you know, are the most cowardly of God's creatures. They are an easy quarry, praise be to God."  
**Abu Musab al-Zarqawi**  
 Leader of al-Qa'ida in Iraq  
 2005

"To all who wear the uniform, I make you this pledge: America will not run in the face of car bombers and assassins so long as I am your Commander-in-Chief."  
**George W. Bush**  
 U.S. President  
 2005

Each report includes links to primary resources, found down the left side (**E**):

- **Overview**  
Become familiar with the landscape of a conflict through an overview written in a concise question-and-answer format. Each overview introduces the major themes, issues, and people involved.
- **History**  
Explore the origins, developments, and recent events that have shaped and continue to shape each conflict. Key readings, question and answer, and timeline sections highlight additional information that puts big-picture concepts into context. Don't miss the Recent Events link to help bring the very latest news and updates into your classroom.
- **Obstacles**  
Understand the issues that have led each region to become involved in an unresolved, protracted conflict. Viewpoints and desired outcomes from every group involved are represented.
- **Implications**  
Review the key impact each conflict has on the peoples, policies, and cultures of the region and the world.

- Resources  
Provide a richer understanding of the main content through convenient reference sources, including overviews of key groups such as political parties, armies, and ethnic groups; brief bios of key individuals; core regional statistics; important primary source documents; bibliography of works cited; and a glossary of terminology.
- Classroom Ideas
- Strengthen and assess student understanding of each conflict through review questions, queries for further research, and activities.

## Part 3: Working with Sections

After clicking a link in the left navigation bar, the selected section of the conflict report appears. From there, navigation to the next section is easy via a link at the bottom of the page.

The screenshot displays the 'World Conflicts Today' website interface for the Chechnya conflict. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Log Off trial2004' and 'Help' options. Below this is a map of Chechnya with the word 'Chechnya' overlaid. A search bar and 'Advanced Search' link are also present. The main content area is divided into a left navigation menu and a central report section. The navigation menu includes options like 'Overview', 'History', 'Origins', 'Developments', etc. The central report section is titled 'History' and 'Origins', with a sub-section 'Seeds of the struggle' containing text about Russian soldiers and Imam Shamil. A red 'F' highlights the word 'Fighting' in the text. To the right, there is a sidebar with call-out text titled 'What happened to Yermolov?' and a 'READ MORE' link. The page is annotated with 'navigation elements' on the left, 'tools' on the right, and a red arrow pointing to the 'F' in the text.

At the top, you can return to the main search page, select a new conflict by mousing over the Select a Conflict menu, click a portion of the breadcrumb trail, or select a different portion of the report using the buttons on the left menu to navigate. In the center of the page, you'll find the report section you selected. The bold words in the text (**F**) can be clicked to display a definition for the word or phrase highlighted.

On the right side, you'll find call-out text that expounds on one portion of the report section currently displayed. Some of these call-outs contain *READ MORE* links, which connect directly to related resources.