“The Sick Man of Europe”

The Ottoman Empire
The Ottoman Empire
The Ottoman Empire

- Suleyman I (r. 1520-1566)
  - Reformed army and judicial system
  - Doubled Ottoman territory
  - Rising period for Istanbul
- Buildings created:
  - Turkish baths
  - Port of Golden Horn
- Succeeded by Selim II
The Ottoman Empire

- Selim II (r. 1566-1574)
  - Start of the decline of the empire
  - Distracted emperor
    - “Selim the Drunk”
  - Continues downhill

- Selim III (r. 1789 – 1808)
  - Can’t return Sultanate power
  - Nationalism starts to emerge
  - Greece in 1830s
The European Perspective

- Europeans see OE as weak
- Major countries try to keep Russia from getting too much land
- Russia wanted land because wanted to trade in Mediterranean
The Crimean War

- Russia wanted Black Sea port
- 1853 – Crimean War between Ottomans and Russians
- Britain and France fought with Ottomans to keep Russians from gaining land
- Defeated Russia
- Crimean War firsts:
  - Women operated on the battlefield as nurses
  - Covered by newspapers
The Great Game
The Great Game

- British tried to keep Ottomans strong (protect India)
- Maneuvering known as “Great Game”
- Britain push out of India and Russia push into India
- Clash in Afghanistan
  - 1921 Britain agrees will not pass Khyber Pass
Egypt: A Case Study

- Ottoman Empire
- Muhammad Ali – Ottoman officer
- 1805 - Seized power and created independent state
- Still HEAVILY influenced by OE
Egypt: A Case Study

Suez Canal
- Started by French (1798-1801)
- 1856 – Ferdinand De Lesseps received Act of Concession from Egyptian viceroy, Sa’id Pasha
  - Allowed for construction
  - Sold stock in the canal company to finance it
Egypt: A Case Study

- British take interest in Egypt **AFTER** the canal is built
- Bought the Egyptian share of the stock (44%)
- Gets them safely and quickly to India
- British take control in 1882
- Made British protectorate in 1914