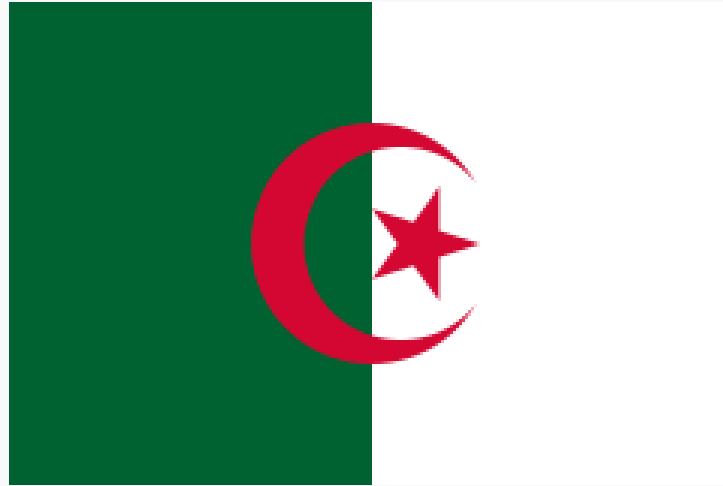


ALJAZAIR



<http://teachmideast.org/country-profiles/algeria/>

Independence Day of Algeria



The national flag of Algeria

Observed by Algeria

Type National

Celebrations Flag Hoisting, Parades, Singing Patriotic Songs and the national anthem, Speech by the President of Algeria.

Frequency Annual

Independence Day, observed annually on July 5 every year, is a National Holiday in Algeria commemorating Algeria's independence from France on July 5, 1962.

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 A photograph of Abdelkader Bensalah, an elderly man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit and tie. He is seated at a table with a microphone and a glass of water, looking down at a document.	 A photograph of Nouredine Bedoui, a man with glasses and a mustache, wearing a dark blue suit and a light blue tie. He is standing and looking forward.
<p>Abdelkader Bensalah Interim President</p>	<p>Nouredine Bedoui Prime Minister</p>

ALJAZAIR

Republik Demokratik Rakyat Aljazair

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية
*Al-Jumhūrīyah al-Jazā'irīyah ad-
Dīmuqrāṭīyah ash-Sha'bīyah* (Arab)

ⵏⴰⵎⴻⵔⴰⵏⵜ ⵜⴰⵎⴻⵔⴰⵏⵜ ⵜⴰⵖⴻⵔⴰⵏⵜ
ⵜⴰⵣⴻⵔⴰⵏⵜ ⵜⴰⵎⴻⵔⴰⵏⵜ

*Ṭagduda tamegdayt tayerfant
tazzayrit* (Berber)

République démocratique populaire
d'Algérie (Prancis)



Bendera



Lambang

Semboyan: بالشعب وللشعب
Bil-sha'b wa lil-sha'b
(Arab: "Oleh rakyat dan untuk rakyat") [1][2]

Lagu kebangsaan:

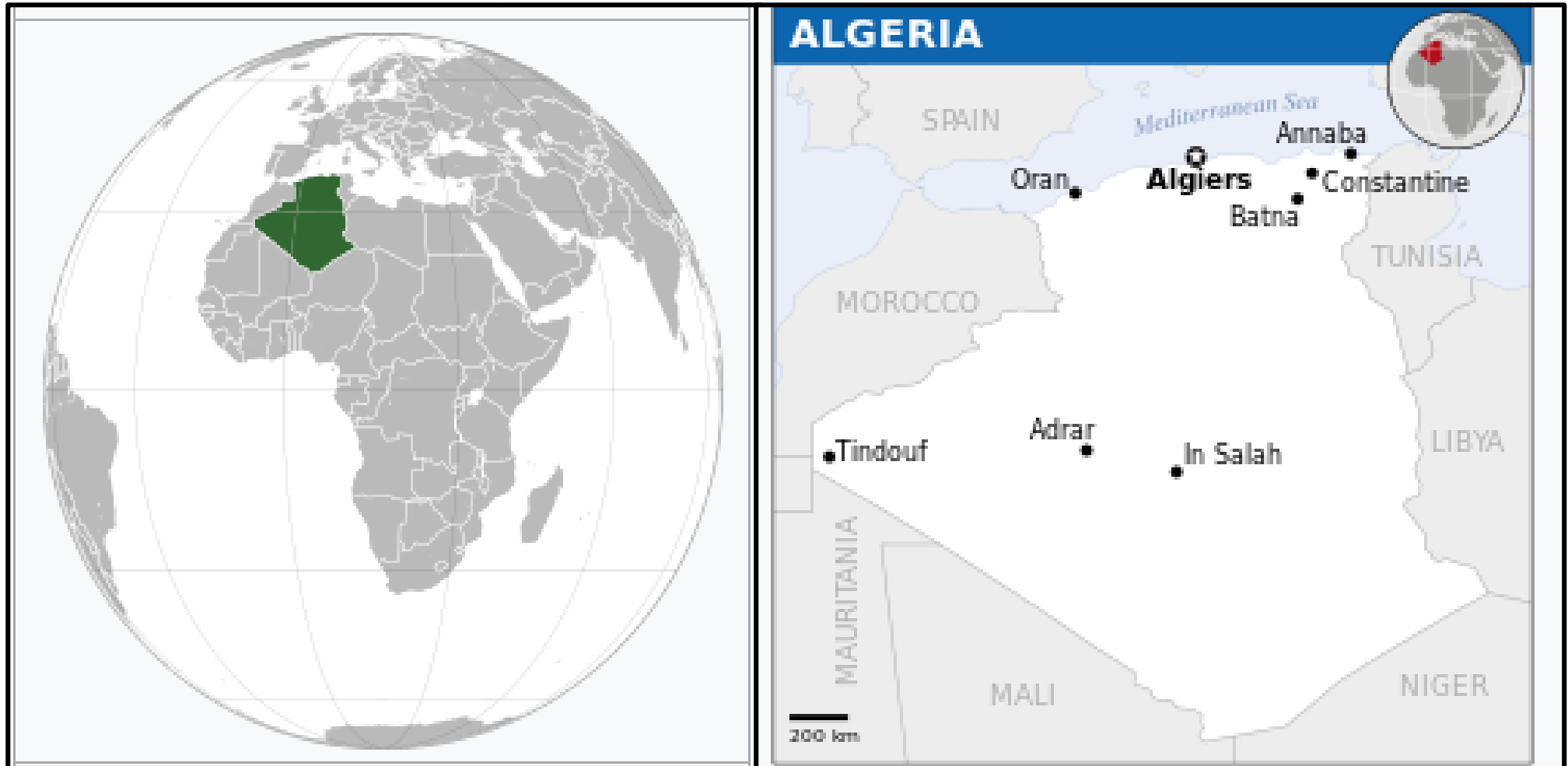
قسفا

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<http://www.algeria.com/map/>

ALJAZAIR



<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aljazair>

ALJAZAIR



LIFE EXPECTANCY
74 (M), 78 (W)



CAPITAL
Algiers



LARGEST CITY
Algiers



NATIONALITY
Algerian



RELIGIONS
Islam, Christianity,
Judaism

ALGERIA OVERVIEW



CURRENCY
Algerian
Dinar (DZD)



POPULATION
40,610,000



LANGUAGES
Arabic, French, Kabylie Berber
Chaouia Berber, Mzab Berber
Tuareg Berber



AGRICULTURE
Wheat, Barley, Oats
Grapes, Olives, Citrus
Fruits, Cattle, Sheep



INDUSTRIES
Petroleum, Natural Gas,
Petrochemicals, Mining
Food Processing

ALJAZAIR

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Capital: Algiers

Population 41 million

Area 2.4 million sq km (919,595 sq miles)

Major languages Arabic, French, Berber

Major religion Islam

Life expectancy 75 years (men), 77 years (women)

Currency dinar

UN, World Bank



Getty Images

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14118852/>

ALJAZAIR

Ibu kota (dan kota terbesar)	Aljir	Population	
Bahasa resmi	Arab ^[3] dan Berber ^[4]	- Perkiraan 2015	39.500.000 (33)
Bahasa lainnya ^[5]	Prancis	- Kepadatan	15,9/km ² (41,2/sq mi) (208)
Pemerintahan	Republik semi-presidensial	PDB (KKB)	2014
• Presiden	Abdelkader Bensalah	- Total	\$551.809 miliar ^[6] (33)
• Perdana Menteri	Noureddine Bedoui	- Per kapita	\$14.259 ^[6] (82)
Legislatif	Parlemen	PDB (nominal)	2014
- Majelis Tinggi	مجلس الأمة <i>Majlis al-'Ummah</i>	- Total	\$214.080 miliar ^[6] (47)
- Majelis Rendah	المجلس الشعبي الوطني <i>Al-Majlis asy-Sya'abi al-Watani</i>	- Per kapita	\$5.532 ^[6] (93)
Kemerdekaan dari Prancis		Gini (1995)	35.3 ^[7] sedang
• Diakui	3 Juli 1962	IPM (2013)	▲ 0.717 ^[8] tinggi · 93
• Diumumkan	5 Juli 1962	Mata uang	Dinar Aljazair (د.ج) (DZD)
Luas		Zona waktu	Waktu Eropa Tengah (CET) (UTC+1)
- Total	2381741 km ² (919595 sq mi) (10)	Lajur kemudi	kanan ^[9]
- Perairan (%)	dapat diabaikan	Kode telepon	+213
		Kode ISO 3166	DZ
		Ranah Internet	.dz dan الجزائر.
		lihat · bicara · sunting	

ALJAZAIR

President (resigned): Abdelaziz Bouteflika



Abdelaziz Bouteflika took power in 1999 and gained his fourth term of office in elections in 2014, despite doing no personal campaigning and rarely appearing in public after suffering a stroke in 2013.

He first took office when Algeria was still caught up in a savage civil war with Islamist insurgents, and is credited with curbing the conflict and restoring economic stability.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14118852/>

ALJAZAIR

Algeria, a gateway between Africa and Europe, has been battered by violence over the past half-century.

There are conflicting reports about the death toll during the war against France for independence in the 1950s and early 60s. French historians estimate that up to 400,000 Algerians were killed, while the Algerian government says more than one million people died.



ALJAZAIR

GEOGRAPHY

Algeria is the largest country in Africa and located on the Mediterranean coast between Morocco and Tunisia. At 2.38 million square kilometers (919,595.3 sq. miles), it is the tenth largest country in the world. Most of the cities in Algeria are near the coast. Algiers, located in northern Algeria, is the most populated city with 2.594 million residents. Oran, located in the north-west, is the second largest with 858,000 residents.

The Sahara Desert comprises 80% of the country. Algeria has a mostly arid climate with temperatures from 21-24° C (70-75° F) during the summer to 10-12° C (50-54° F) during the winter. One unique feature of Algeria's climate is the Sirocco winds. The Sirocco winds are hot, sandy, gale force winds that are prominent in the summer season and occasionally strong enough to cause sandstorms.



<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aljazair>

ALJAZAIR

There are large reserves of oil and gas scattered across the country. Some of the largest concentrations are on the eastern border with Libya, in the southern desert, and along the northern coastline. Offshore drilling is also utilized by Algeria to tap into oil and gas reserves in the Mediterranean. The country's first drilling contract was awarded to a French oil company in December 2012.

As with many countries in this region, Algeria suffers from a lack of arable land. Only 3% of Algeria's land is arable. Currently, Algeria is facing soil erosion and desertification issues from over-grazing and poor farming practices. In addition, oil waste and fertilizers are polluting the water systems resulting in an inadequate supply of clean water. There are, however, companies committed to improving the water shortage crisis in Algeria that are building water desalination plants that convert sea water from the Mediterranean into fresh drinking water. General Electric completed the Hamma Seawater Desalination Plant in 2008, which today provides 25% of the country's drinking water. In 2012, the power company Asea Brown Boveri (ABB) in partnership with the Hyflux Corporation began to supply electricity and technology to the Magtaa Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant in Oran, located in northwest Algeria. The Magtaa Plant is the world's largest desalination plant, providing water to over 2 million people in the region.



ALJAZAIR

#	Wilaya	Area (km ²)	Population	map	#	Wilaya	Area (km ²)	Population
1	Adrar	402,197	439,700		25	Constantine	2,187	943,112
2	Chlef	4,975	1,013,718		26	Médéa	8,866	830,943
3	Laghouat	25,057	477,328		27	Mostaganem	2,269	746,947
4	Oum El Bouaghi	6,768	644,364		28	M'Sila	18,718	991,846
5	Batna	12,192	1,128,030		29	Mascara	5,941	780,959
6	Béjaïa	3,268	915,835		30	Ouargla	211,980	552,539
7	Biskra	20,986	730,262		31	Oran	2,114	1,584,607
8	Béchar	161,400	274,866		32	El Bayadh	78,870	262,187
9	Blida	1,696	1,009,892		33	Illizi	285,000	54,490
10	Bouïra	4,439	694,750		34	Bordj Bou Arréridj	4,115	634,396
11	Tamanrasset	556,200	198,691		35	Boumerdes	1,591	795,019
12	Tébessa	14,227	657,227		36	El Taref	3,339	411,783
13	Tlemcen	9,061	945,525		37	Tindouf	58,193	159,000
14	Tiaret	20,673	842,060		38	Tissemsilt	3,152	296,366
15	Tizi Ouzou	3,568	1,119,646		39	El Oued	54,573	673,934
16	Algiers	273	2,947,461		40	Khenchela	9,811	384,268
17	Djelfa	66,415	1,223,223		41	Souk Ahras	4,541	440,299
18	Jijel	2,577	634,412		42	Tipaza	2,166	617,661
19	Sétif	6,504	1,496,150		43	Mila	9,375	768,419
20	Saïda	6,764	328,685		44	Ain Defla	4,897	771,890
21	Skikda	4,026	904,195		45	Naâma	29,950	209,470
22	Sidi Bel Abbès	9,150	603,369		46	Ain Timouchent	2,376	384,565
23	Annaba	1,439	640,050		47	Ghardaïa	86,105	375,988
24	Guelma	4,101	482,261		48	Relizane	4,870	733,060

ALJAZAIR








Largest cities or towns in Algeria

According to the 2008 Census^[143]

Rank	Name	Province	Pop.	Rank	Name	Province	Pop.
1	Algiers	Algiers Province	2,364,230	11	Tébessa	Tébessa Province	194,461
2	Oran	Oran Province	803,329	12	El Oued	El Oued Province	186,525
3	Constantine	Constantine Province	448,028	13	Skikda	Skikda Province	182,903
4	Annaba	Annaba Province	342,703	14	Tiaret	Tiaret Province	178,915
5	Blida	Blida Province	331,779	15	Béjaïa	Béjaïa Province	176,139
6	Batna	Batna Province	289,504	16	Tlemcen	Tlemcen Province	173,531
7	Djelfa	Djelfa Province	265,833	17	Ouargla	Ouargla Province	169,928
8	Sétif	Sétif Province	252,127	18	Béchar	Béchar Province	165,241
9	Sidi Bel Abbès	Sidi Bel Abbès Province	210,146	19	Mostaganem	Mostaganem Province	162,885
10	Biskra	Biskra Province	204,661	20	Bordj Bou Arréridj	Bordj Bou Arréridj Province	158,812

ALJAZAIR

Presidential elections [edit]

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
 Abdelaziz Bouteflika	National Liberation Front	8,332,598	81.53
 Ali Benflis	Independent	1,244,918	12.18
 Abdelaziz Belaid	Front for the Future	343,624	3.36
 Louisa Hanoune	Workers' Party	140,253	1.37
 Ali Fawzi Rebaine	Ahd 54	101,046	0.99
 Moussa Touati	Algerian National Front	57,590	0.56
Invalid/blank votes		1,087,449	–
Total		11,307,478	100
Registered voters/turnout		21,871,393	51.70
Source: Interior Ministry 			e · d

Abdelkader Bensalah

عبد القادر بن صالح



Abdelkader Bensalah in 2012.

Acting head of state of Algeria

Incumbent

Assumed office

9 April 2019

Prime Minister [Noureddine Bedoui](#)

Preceded by [Abdelaziz Bouteflika](#) (President)

President of the Council of the Nation

In office

2 July 2002 – 9 April 2019

Preceded by [Bachir Boumaza](#)

Succeeded by [Salah Goudjil](#) (acting)

President of the People's National Assembly

In office

14 June 1997 – 10 June 2002

Preceded by Himself as President of the National Transitional Council

Succeeded by [Karim Younes](#)

Personal details

Born 24 November 1941 (age 77)
[Fellaoucene, Oran, Algeria, France](#)

Nationality Algerian

Political party [Democratic National Rally](#) (until 2019)

ALJAZAIR

Algeria



This article is part of a series on the politics and government of **Algeria**

Main office holders

Office	Name	Party	Since
Acting President	Abdelkader Bensalah	Independent	9 April 2019
Prime Minister	Noureddine Bedoui	National Rally for Democracy	11 March 2019

Noureddine Bedoui



Noureddine Bedoui in 2018

17th Prime Minister of Algeria

Incumbent

Assumed office

11 March 2019

President [Abdelaziz Bouteflika](#)
[Abdelkader Bensalah](#) (Acting)

Preceded by [Ahmed Ouyahia](#)

Personal details

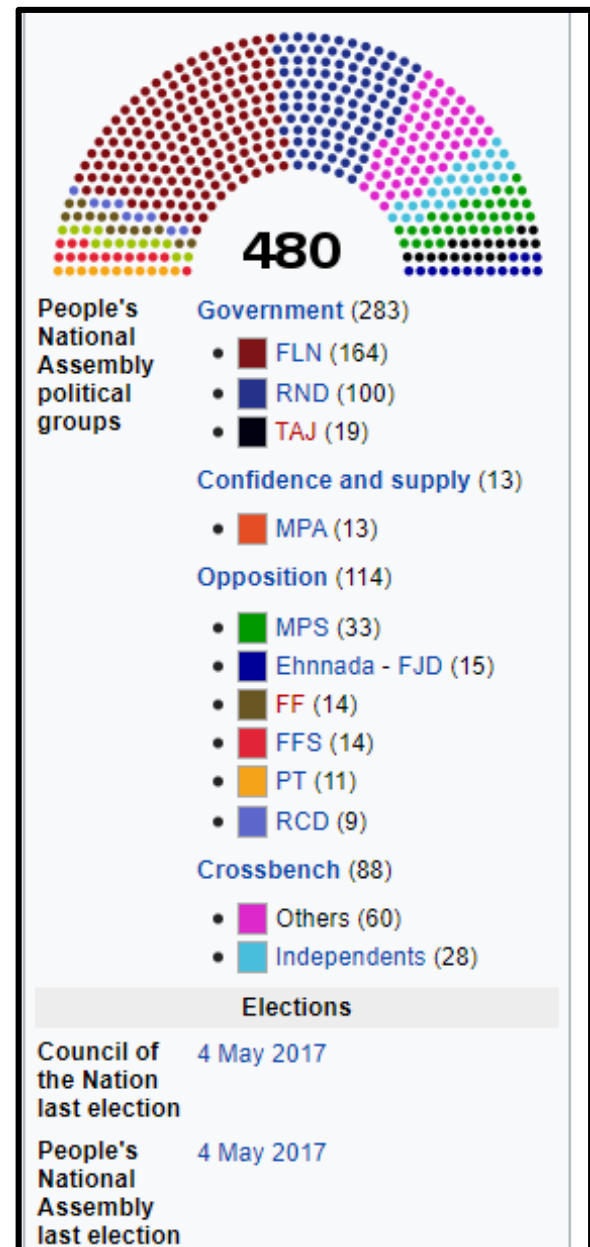
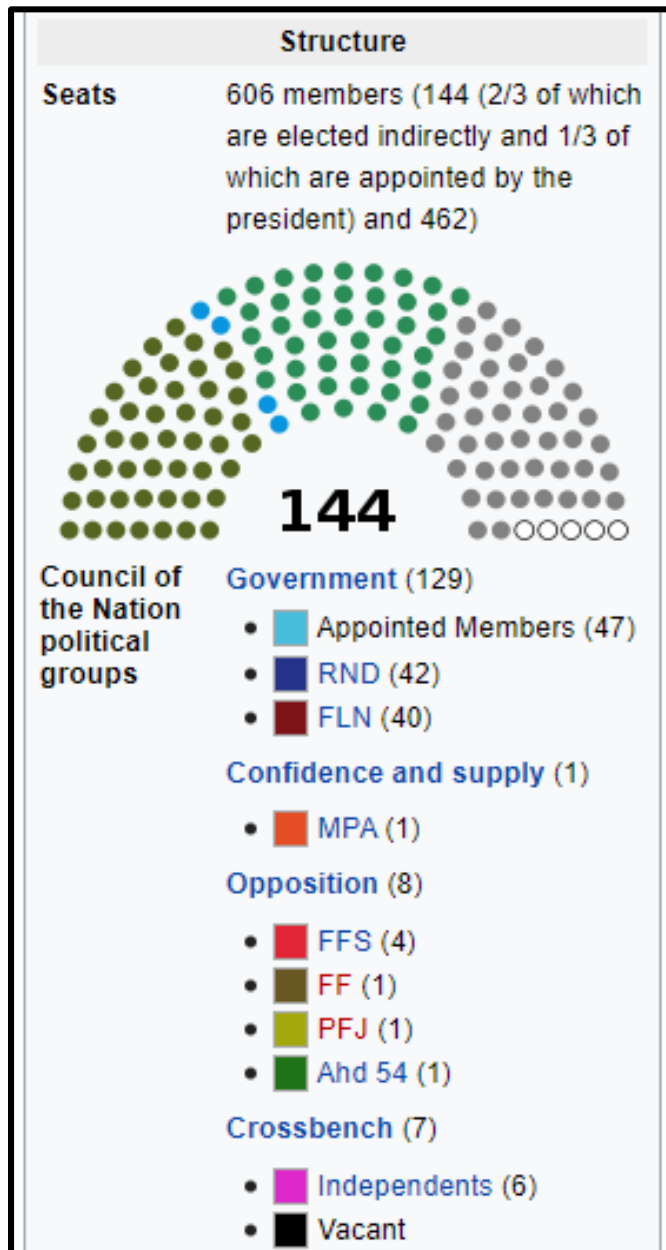
Born 22 December 1959 (age 59)
[Ain Taya, Algeria](#)

Nationality Algerian

Political party [Independent](#)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Algeria>

ALJAZAIR



Summary of the 10 May 2012 People's National Assembly of Algeria election results

Parties	Leader	Votes	%	Seats	+/-
National Liberation Front	Abdelmalek Sellal	1,324,363	17.35	208	+72
National Rally for Democracy	Ahmed Ouyahia	524,057	6.86	68	+7
Green Algeria Alliance (MSP—Nahda—Islah)	Bouguerra Soltani	475,049	6.22	49	-11
Front of Socialist Forces	Hocine Ait Ahmed	188,275	2.47	27	+27
Workers' Party	Louisa Hanoune	283,585	3.71	24	-2
Algerian National Front	Moussa Touati	198,544	2.60	9	-4
Justice and Development Party	Abdallah Djaballah	232,676	3.05	8	+8
Algerian Popular Movement	Amara Benyounes	165,600	2.17	7	+7
New Dawn	Tahar Benbaibeche	132,492	1.74	5	+5
Front of Change	Abdelmadjid Mensara	173,981	2.28	4	+4
National Party for Solidarity and Development	Dalila Yalaoui	114,372	1.50	4	+2
National Front for Social Justice		140,223	1.84	3	+3
Ahd 54	Ali Fawzi Rebaine	120,201	1.57	3	+1
Union of Democratic and Social Forces		114,481	1.50	3	+3
National Republican Alliance	Redha Malek	109,331	1.43	3	-1
Future Front	Abdelaziz Belaid	174,708	2.29	2	+2
Dignity Party		129,427	1.70	2	+2
National Movement of Hope		119,253	1.56	2	±0
Algerian Rally	Ali Zaghdoud	117,549	1.54	2	+1
Republican Patriotic Rally		114,651	1.50	2	±0
Party of Youth	Hamana Boucharma	102,663	1.34	2	+2
Algerian Light Party		48,943	0.64	2	+2
Party of Algerian Renewal		111,218	1.46	1	-3
El-Infitah Movement	Naima Farhi	116,384	1.52	1	-2
Movement of Free Citizens		115,631	1.51	1	+1
National Front of Independents for Understanding		107,833	1.41	1	-2
National Democratic Front		101,643	1.33	1	±0
Others		1,306,656	17.12	0	-22
Independents		671,190	8.79	18	-15
Valid votes		7,634,979	100.00	-	-
Invalid votes		1,704,047	18.25	-	-
Total		9,339,026	100	462	-
Registered voters/turnout		21,645,841	43.14	-	-

Sources: El Watan, Adam Carr's Election Archive, IPU

ALJAZAIR







Parliamentary parties [edit]








Short name	English name	Arabic name	French name	Leader	
FLN	National Liberation Front	جبهة التحرير الوطني (<i>Jabhat at-Taḥrīr al-Waṭaniyy</i>)	Front de Libération Nationale	Abdelaziz Bouteflika	http://www.pfln.dz/ ↗
PT	Workers' Party	حزب العمال (<i>Ḥizb al-`Ummā</i>)	Parti des Travailleurs	Louisa Hanoune	http://www.pt.dz/ ↗
RND	National Rally for Democracy	التجمع الوطني الديمقراطي (<i>at-Tajammu` al-Waṭaniyy ad-Dīmuqrāṭiyy</i>)	Rassemblement National Démocratique	Ahmed Ouyahia	
RCD	Rally for Culture and Democracy	التجمع من أجل الثقافة والديمقراطية (<i>at-Tajammu` min `ajl at-Taqāfah wad-Dīmuqrāṭiyyah</i>)	Rassemblement pour la Culture et la Démocratie	Said Sadi	http://www.rcd-algerie.org/ ↗
EI Islah/MRN/MI	Movement for National Reform	حركة الإصلاح الوطني (<i>Ḥarakat al-Islāḥ al-Waṭaniyy</i>)	Mouvement EI Islah/Mouvement du Renouveau National	Abdallah Djaballah	http://www.elislah.net/ ↗
Hamas/HMS/MSP	Movement of Society for Peace	حركة مجتمع السلم (<i>Ḥarakat Mujtama` as-Silm</i>)	Mouvement de la Société pour la Paix	Bouguerra Soltani	http://www.hmsalgeria.net/ ↗
FNA	Algerian National Front	الجبهة الوطنية الجزائرية (<i>al-Jabḥah al-Waṭaniyyah al-Jazā'iriyyah</i>)	Front National Algérien	Moussa Touati	https://web.archive.org/web/20060808080808/http://www.fna.dz/ ↗
Ennahda (MN)	Islamic Renaissance Movement	حركة النهضة (<i>Ḥarakat an-Naḥḍah</i>)	Mouvement Ennahda/Mouvement de la Renaissance Islamique	Lahbib Adami	
PRA	Party of Algerian Renewal	حزب التجديد الجزائري (<i>Ḥizb at-Tajdīd al-Jazā'iriyy</i>)	Parti du Renouveau Algérien	Yacine Terkmane	
MEN	Movement of National Understanding	حركة الوفاق الوطني (<i>Ḥarakat al-Wifāq al-Waṭaniyy</i>)	Mouvement de l'Entente Nationale	Ali Boukhazna	
MNJA	EI-Infitah Movement	?	Mouvement EI Infitah	Naima Farhi	
MPA	Algerian Popular Movement	الحركة الشعبية الجزائرية (<i>Ḥarakat al-Sha'abiyah al-Jazā'iriyy</i>)	Mouvement Populaire Algérien	Amara Benyounes	http://www.mpa-dz.org/ ↗

Parties that boycotted the last elections [edit]

Short name	English name	Arabic name	French name	Leader
FFS	Front of Socialist Forces	جبهة القوى الاشتراكية (<i>Jabhat al-Quwā al-Iṣṭirākiyyah</i>)	Front des Forces Socialistes	Hocine Aït Ahme
MDA	Movement for Democracy in Algeria	الحركة من أجل الديمقراطية في الجزائر (<i>al-Ḥarakah min `ajl ad-Dīmuqrāṭiyyah fī al-Jazā'ir</i>)	Mouvement pour la démocratie en Algérie	Ahmed Ben Bell

ALJAZAIR

No.	Name (Birth–Death) Position	Portrait	Elected	Term of office		Political Party
—	Ferhat Abbas فرحات عباس (1899–1985) <i>President of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic</i>		—	19 September 1958	27 August 1961	National Liberation Front
—	Benyoucef Benkhedda بن يوسف بن خدة (1920–2003) <i>President of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic</i>		—	27 August 1961	22 July 1962	National Liberation Front
—	Abderrahmane Farès عبد الرحمن فارس (1911–1991) <i>Chairman of the Provisional Executive</i>		—	3 July 1962	25 September 1962	National Liberation Front
—	Ferhat Abbas فرحات عباس (1899–1985) <i>President of the National Constituent Assembly</i>		—	25 September 1962	15 September 1963	National Liberation Front
1	Ahmed Ben Bella أحمد بن بلة (1916–2012) <i>President of the Republic</i>		1963	15 September 1963	19 June 1965 <i>(deposed.)</i>	National Liberation Front
—	Revolutionary Council <i>Chairman: Colonel Houari Boumédiène</i>		—	19 June 1965	10 December 1976	Military

3	<p>Chadli Bendjedid شاذلي بن جديد (1929–2012) <i>President of the Republic</i></p>		<p>1979 1984 1988</p>	9 February 1979	11 January 1992 <i>(resigned.)</i> ^[a]	National Liberation Front
—	<p>Abdelmalek Benhabyles عبد المالك بن حبيليس (1921–2018) <i>Chairman of the Constitutional Council</i></p>		—	11 January 1992	14 January 1992	National Liberation Front
4	<p>Mohamed Boudiaf محمد بوضياف (1919–1992) <i>Chairman of the High Council of State</i></p>		—	14 January 1992	29 June 1992 <i>(assassinated.)</i>	Party of the Socialist Revolution
5	<p>Ali Kafi علي حسين كافي (1928–2013) <i>Chairman of the High Council of State</i></p>		—	2 July 1992	31 January 1994	National Liberation Front
6	<p>Liamine Zéroual اليامين زروال (1941–)</p>		1995	31 January 1994 <i>State President</i> 27 November 1995 <i>President of the Republic</i>	27 April 1999	Independent
7	<p>Abdelaziz Bouteflika عبد العزيز بوتفليقة (1937–) <i>President of the Republic</i></p>		<p>1999 2004 2009 2014</p>	27 April 1999	2 April 2019	National Liberation Front
—	<p>Abdelkader Bensalah عبد القادر بن صالح (1941–) <i>Acting Head of State</i></p>		—	9 April 2019	Incumbent	Independent

ALJAZAIR

HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

The earliest recorded history in Algeria is from 6,000 BCE, and is depicted in the wall art of Tassili n'Ajer (see 'Art' section below for more details). Throughout ancient Algerian history, the majority of people lived in nomadic tribes until these bands of nomads coalesced into larger groups which established the Imazighen (Berber) civilization. The Berbers were the original inhabitants of the Maghreb, an area composed of modern day Algeria, Libya, Morocco, the disputed Western Sahara territory, Mauritania and Tunisia. However, using the term "Berber" to define them is considered offensive as it has negative connotations. "Amazigh" or the plural "Imazighen" (free people) are the names they use to refer to themselves. As the Imazighen civilization was established, three distinct Imazighen kingdoms arose—the Mauri in Morocco, Massyli in Tunisia, and the Masaesyli in Algeria. By the 2nd century BCE, Massyli and Masaesyli had combined into the Kingdom of Numidia, which was ruled by powerful kings who led opulent lifestyles. The Imazighen kings forged strong trade ties between Numidia and Rome. When Rome fell into civil war (130-30 BCE), warring Roman factions sought the aid of the Imazighen kings to help them take control of the empire. In 24 CE, the Romans annexed the Imazighen kingdom of Numidia.

The Romans ruled Algeria until the Vandals arrived in 429. The Vandals were driven out four years later when the Byzantine Empire—the eastern part of the Roman empire that had survived despite the western empire's collapse — claimed the Maghreb. The territory remained under Byzantine rule until the Arab Umayyad Caliphate conquered the region in the mid-7th century.

ALJAZAIR

The arrival of the Arabs in the 7th century led to the conversion of many Maghreb residents to Islam. For the next four hundred years, various caliphates ruled over the area. The Abbasid Caliphate succeeded the Umayyads in 750, to be followed by the Rustumids until the 10th century. Then, two groups arose with the intention of spreading Islam beyond North Africa: the Almoravids and the Almohads. The Almoravids, a Imazighen tribe from southwestern Sahara, practiced a less strict version of Islam than the Almohads. The Almoravids were able to march their way into Spain through Morocco, where they ruled the Maghreb from 1062-1147. The Almohads who replaced them until 1269, were an Amazigh tribe from Morocco that had little tolerance for non-Muslims and forced Christians and Jews to convert or identify themselves as non-Muslim through their attire.

In 1492, after centuries of Muslim rule, the Spanish monarchs Isabel of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon, drove out the Muslims living in Spain and established imperial occupation of the Maghreb. The Spanish created fortress colonies, called *presidios*, along the Mediterranean coast that controlled the population and forced them to pay tribute to the Spanish crown. Barbary pirates who lived in Algeria took to the sea in an effort to prevent Spanish ships from delivering supplies to the ruling *presidios*.

ALJAZAIR

One pirate who intended to defend Algeria was Khayr al-Din, known as Barbarossa ("Red Beard") to the Europeans. Khayr al-Din knew that a handful of pirates were powerless to stop Spanish occupation, so he called upon the Ottoman Empire to conquer Algeria and protect it from the Spanish. Sometime between 1525 and 1574, the Ottomans accepted al-Din's request and added Algiers to the empire as a tribute-paying vassal state. With the support of the Ottoman Empire and its forces, Khayr al-Din managed to defend Algeria and drive out the Spanish.

For the next three centuries, the regency of Algiers remained a vassal state to the Ottomans but Algerians retained a great deal of independence. Ruling elites were usually Turkish military men organized into a council. The council elected a leader, or *dey*, who was approved by the Ottoman sultan. The Turkish elites, however, usually held no formal ties to the empire and the only Ottoman official in Algiers was the judge of the Islamic Court.

The autonomy granted to Algiers had both advantages and disadvantages. Their connection to the Ottoman Empire allowed them protection from larger powers, and the dey was able to engage in trade and agreements directly with other nations as a result of this autonomy. However, without the voice of the Ottomans behind him, the dey held little legitimacy in the eyes other powers. This became apparent in 1793 and 1798 when Algiers lent France some badly-needed grain on credit. When the dey demanded payment, the request went unheard.

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Decades passed and France did not repay the debt despite numerous requests from the dey. Relations between the Algerian dey, Husayn Pasha, and French consul to Algiers, Pierre Deval, soured, and in 1827, after another letter to the French government requesting payment went unanswered, friendly negotiations were terminated. In a private meeting between Pasha and Deval, the Algerian dey struck the French consul with an Arab fly whisk (a knot of horse hair attached to a handle) after he lost his temper. The French consul claimed that he had been violently attacked with the whisk, and the dey countered that while he had hit Deval, it was only after provocation. Charles X, the king of France, used the "Fan Affair" as justification to blockade the port of Algiers in 1830. King Charles hoped that a victory over a foreign power would rally support for the monarchy in France, so he invaded Algeria, defeated the dey's forces, and claimed Algeria from the Ottoman Empire.

In 1832, Adb al Qadir, who wished to free Algeria from colonial rule, led a revolt against the French. After al Qadir reclaimed a large portion of Algeria from the French, he signed the Treaty of Tafna in 1836, in which the French recognized his state. By 1839, al Qadir controlled two-thirds of present-day Algeria. In that same year, the French occupied Constantine, a city within al Qadir's territory, to provoke an offensive from al Qadir. He fought the French again but this time was defeated. By 1943, the French controlled all of Algeria again and imposed strict laws favoring French citizens over native Algerians.

Over time, the citizens of Algeria, many of whom were Muslim, grew weary of French discrimination. Colonial laws prohibited the native Imazighen and the Arab population from becoming French citizens unless they renounced their religion and converted to Christianity.

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Tensions between the French colonists and Algerians came to a head in late 1954, when the Front de Liberation Nationale (FLN) used terrorist attacks in Algeria and France to agitate for independence. These attacks led to what would become the Algerian War, in which the FLN and its supporters used guerilla tactics against military and immigrant targets. To combat this, the French army relocated around 2 million Algerians from their villages to camps where the Algerians were monitored and could not support the FLN.

In 1958, the French army used mobile forces to take FLN strongholds throughout the country, and they managed to regain control of Algeria. Some historians claim that 1.5 million Algerians were killed throughout the war, while the French at the time claimed there were a total of 400,000 casualties from both sides. In 1961, public opinion in France was turned in favor of an independent Algeria, and soon talks opened between the FLN and French leaders. On July 3, 1962, France declared Algeria independent and installed the first president, Ahmed Ben Bella, a former leader of the FLN. *The Battle of Algiers* is a 1966 historical war film based on occurrences during the Algerian War (1954–62) against French rule.

In 1963, Morocco attempted to take part of western Algeria, which led to the Sand War. The Algerian army utilized hit-and-run tactics to hold the more advanced Moroccan army at bay. The Organization for African Unity coordinated a cease-fire in 1964, although it took 8 years for an agreement to be reached on the border between the two countries.

ALJAZAIR

In 1965, Houari Boumediene, President Bella's chief of staff, seized power from Bella in a bloodless coup that abolished the government and created a revolutionary council backed by the army, with himself as the head. Boumediene nationalized the oil industry and agriculture in Algeria and used the revenues to industrialize the country. Algeria prospered economically during his presidency, despite strict government censorship. The *sécurité militaire* (military police) controlled Algeria with an iron fist and effectively destroyed any opposition to the new government. Through the 1970s a constitution was gradually formed that established a parliament and reinstated the office of the president, which Boumediene claimed in 1978. That same year Boumediene died from a rare blood disease.

Boumediene's successor was Chadli Bendjedid, his former minister of defense. Bendjedid lessened the role of the state in the economy during the late 1980s, which created tensions between the pro-statists, who desired a strong central government, and supporters of the new policy, who wanted less government control. In 1988, Algerian youth took to the streets and protested against the poor economic growth and slow political reforms. These riots were stopped by the military and unofficial sources estimated 500 rioters were killed and over 3,000 more arrested. After this event, Bendjedid moved the government toward a multi-party democracy instead of a one party system, in order to prevent further protests.

The multi-party system was established in 1991. The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), a fundamentalist group that sought to establish an Islamic state governed by Sharia law, won over half the votes in local elections that year. In the first election for the parliament, the FIS won 188 seats out of 430, with a plurality of the vote which alarmed the country's ruling elites. Before the second round of voting took place for contested seats, the army intervened and cracked down on voters by arresting FIS supporters and declaring the FIS illegal. In 1992, the military removed the government and appointed a former leader in the FLN, Mohamed Boudiaf, the chairman of the high council of state, which made him head of the acting government. Six months later he was assassinated by a FIS sympathizer. This led to mass arrests of FIS supporters and the military declared an official state of emergency, which suspended Algerian citizens' freedom of expression, assembly, and association.

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FIS supporters embarked upon a decade-long battle against the government after the military intervention. Between 1992 and 1998, more than 150,000 Algerians died as a result of violence on both sides. In 1999, the government granted FIS members amnesty and eventually the group disbanded. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, a member of the FLN, won the presidential election in 1999 with support from the military. Bouteflika was reelected for a fourth term in April 2014. His platform consisted of promises to re-establish Algerians' trust in their national institutions and inclusion of all parties and groups in dialogue, even the then-outlawed FIS leaders.

In 2006, the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) rose to prominence in Algeria, and joined forces with Al-Qaeda. The combination resulted in the formation of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). AQIM believes in a "pure" interpretation of the Quran and vows to target symbols of Western culture internally and externally in order to reach its primary goal of establishing an Islamic State in Algeria. Since 2006, this group has been responsible for a number of violent attacks against the government and Westerners. In 2007, they killed 30 people and wounded 150 with two car bombs in Algiers.

Algeria has struggled with ongoing economic and social problems, including: a 25% youth (16-25) unemployment rate combined with a very young population (the median age of the population is 28), a shortage of housing, unreliable electrical and water supplies, and government inefficiencies and corruption. The wealth from oil has not been used effectively and the country is plagued by poor infrastructure.

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In 2011, protests and riots influenced by the Arab Spring erupted due to these unaddressed problems coupled with a sharp increase in the cost of living. These protests continued throughout 2011 and into early 2012 with several cases of self-immolation. To combat the demonstrations, the Bouteflika government voted to lower the tax on certain foods, promote job creation and open the state-run television to other parties. They also lifted the 19-year state-of-emergency declaration, enacted when the military and the FIS clashed in 1992. These moves restored Algerians' freedom of expression, assembly and association. In addition, the government offered more than \$23 billion in public grants, which raised the wages of civil servants, allocated more money to food subsidies and led to interest-free loans for young entrepreneurs to build businesses. Public banks in Algeria pledged to finance the building of more than 250,000 homes in the country by the end of 2014; however, this project has been amended to last through 2019 and thus far, only about 80,000 homes have been built. As more revenue is generated from different sources, Algeria's infrastructure will be invested in and improved, according to government officials. Learn more about the **Algerian response to the Arab Spring** in [this TeachMideast essay](#).

On February 16, 2019, millions of protesters began filling Algeria's streets to demand an end to President Abdelaziz Bouteflika's 20-year rule along with the "System" of cronyism and corruption he oversaw. On April 1, 2019, the **the wheelchair-bound, 82-year-old president was forced from power**. The final push came from the army chief of staff, Ahmed Gaïd Salah, a former ally who came around to the protesters' view that **the president was physically unable to perform his role** since his 2013 stroke, and was being used by a tight circle of family members and businessmen to preserve their privileges. The country's constitutional council ratified Bouteflika's resignation on April 3rd. An interim government **named by Bouteflika** took control and is presided over by a Bouteflika ally, the elderly head of the country's senate, Abdelkader Bensalah, for 90 days, while elections are organized. The protests notable for their non-violence and were sparked by Bouteflika's announcement that he would be standing for a fifth term in spite of his infirmity.

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The Algerian government is structured as a presidential republic with an executive branch and a bicameral parliament. The bicameral parliament consists of the National People's Assembly (389 seats) and the Council of the Nation (144 seats). The People's Assembly is elected every 5 years, and the Council's elections are every 6 years, with 1/3 of the seats appointed by the president. Although it is a democracy, former president Bouteflika amended the constitution to remove presidential term limits in 2008. The president is elected every five years and the last two elections in 2009 and 2014 were landslide victories for Bouteflika, similar to his previous elections. His opponents cited state manipulation of broadcast media, and in 2009, the opposition party (Front of Socialists Forces) accused authorities of turnout inflation and massive fraud. Censorship of the media and the demonization of the opposition were common features of the Bouteflika government.

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1830 - France seizes Algiers, ending Algeria's three centuries as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire.

1939-1945 - The Collapse of France and the Anglo-American occupation of North Africa during Second World War encourages hopes for independence.

1945 - Pro-independence demonstrations in Setif. Thousands are killed in suppression of ensuing unrest.

1954-1962 - Algerian War of Independence.

1962 - Independence.

1976 - Algerian, Moroccan armies clash over Western Sahara.

1989 - New constitution removes the one-party state and moves country away from socialism to western capitalism.

1991-1999 - Civil war pitting Islamists against the government.

1999 - Abdelaziz Bouteflika becomes president, introduces national reconciliation policy.

2019 April - President Bouteflika announces he will step down after street protests.

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Prior to 16th century [edit]

- 3rd century BC – Yksm settled by Punics.
- 146 BC – Icosium became part of the Roman Empire.^[1]
- 371 AD – City raided by Firmus.^[1]
- 5th century AD – Vandals in power.
- 7th century AD – Arabs in power.
- 960 – Algiers founded by Bologhine ibn Ziri.^[2]
- 1014 – Hammadids in power.
- 1018 – Djamaa el Kebir mosque built.^[1]
- 1159 – Almohades in power.
- 1313 – Ziyenids of the Kingdom of Tlemcen in power.^[3]

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16th–18th centuries [[edit](#)]

- 1516
 - [Capture of Algiers by Hayreddin Barbarossa and Aruj](#).
 - [Kasbah construction begins](#).^[4]
- 1518 – [Harbour construction begins](#).^[4]
- 1529 – [Capture of Algiers by Hayreddin Barbarossa](#).^{[5][1]}
- 1544 – [Lighthouse built](#).^[4]
- 1545 – [Fort de l'Empereur built](#).^[6]
- 1549 – [Muslim hospital founded](#).^[7]
- 1556 – [Citadel built](#).
- 1581 – [Fort Bab Azoun built](#).^[8]
- 1612
 - [Ketchaoua Mosque built](#).^{[9][10]}
 - [Hospital of the Holy Trinity founded](#).^[7]
- 1622 – [Aqueducts^{\[11\]} and Jama Bitchnin \(mosque\) built](#).^[12]
- 1660 – [Mosque of the Fishery built](#).^{[12][10]}
- 1661 – [Tamentfoust Castle built](#).^[citation needed]
- 1696 – [Mosque of Sidi Abderrahman built](#).^[12]
- 1775 – 8 July: [Attempted invasion of Algiers by Spanish forces](#).^[3]
- 1783 – 4–8 August: [Bombardment of Algiers by Spanish forces](#).
- 1784 – 12 July: [Bombardment of Algiers by Spanish-Neapolitan-Maltese-Portuguese forces](#).
- 1791 – [Ketshawa Mosque built](#).^[12]
- 1799 – [Palais d'Hiver du Gouverneur built](#).^[12]

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19th century [edit]

- 1805 – The day after the assassination of the head of the influential family, Busnach (June 29, 1805),
- 1816 – 27 August: [Bombardment of Algiers](#) by British forces.^[1]
- 1817 – Kesba Berranee mosque built.^[8]
- 1825 – Fort des Anglais built.^[8]
- 1830 – June–July: [Invasion of Algiers](#) by French forces; city becomes capital of French Algeria.^{[3][1]}
- 1832 – Jardin d'essai laid out.
- 1835 – [National Library of Algeria](#) founded.
- 1836 – Northern harbour construction begins.^[4]
- 1847 – Jardin Marengo laid out.^[12]
- 1866 – Boulevard de la Republique constructed.^[8]
- 1870 – Holy Trinity church built.^[4]
- 1872 – [Notre Dame d'Afrique](#) church built.^[9]
- 1878 – Church of St. Augustin built.^[8]
- 1888 – Population: 56,000.^[11]
- 1890 – [Algiers Observatory](#) built in Bouzaréah.
- 1897 – [National Museum of Algerian Antiquities](#) relocates to Mustapha Superieur.^[4]

20th century [edit]

- 1904
 - Medersa opens.^[12]
 - Southern harbour construction begins.^[4]
- 1906 – Population: 138,240.^[4]
- 1908
 - National Museum of Fine Arts of Algiers established.
 - Quai de la Marine extended.^[12]
 - Cinema opens.^[13]
- 1909 – University of Algiers founded.^[14]
- 1910 – Grand Post Office built.^[15]
- 1912 – Population: 172,397.^[16]
- 1921 – Mouloudia Chaàbia d'Alger football club formed.
- 1924 – Maison Blanche Airport begins operating.
- 1928 – Bardo National Museum of Prehistory and Ethnography established.
- 1930 – Population: 246,061.^[1]
- 1933 – Palais du Gouvernement built.^[15]
- 1935 – Stade communal de Saint Eugène (sport stadium) built.
- 1942
 - November: Conflict between Axis and Allied forces.^[14]
 - Camus' novel *L'Étranger* published.
- 1948 – Population: 266,165 city; 488,893 urban agglomeration.^[17]

1950s–1980s [edit]

See also: *Algerian War*

- 1950 – Population: 516,000 (urban agglomeration).^[18]
- 1952 – Aerohabitat housing complex built.^[15]
- 1953 – Jacques Chevallier becomes mayor.^[19]
- 1954
 - Anti-French unrest.^[1]
 - Diar el Mahçoul housing development and 200 Colonnnes housing complex built.^{[15][19]}
- 1956
 - 30 September: Battle of Algiers begins.^[20]
 - National Liberation Front headquartered in city.^[1]
- 1958 – May: Pro-French unrest.^{[1][20]}
- 1959 – Siemens branch in business.^[21]
- 1960
 - January: Pro-French unrest.^[22]
 - Population: 872,000 (urban agglomeration).^[18]
- 1961 – April: Coup attempt.^[23]
- 1962
 - City becomes capital of independent Algeria.^[1]
 - 200,000 European residents depart.^[24]
- 1963
 - Centre National d'Etudes et d'Analyses pour la Population et le Développement headquartered in city.^[25]
 - Algerian National Theatre established.^[26]
- 1966
 - Pontecorvo's film *The Battle of Algiers* released.
 - Population: 903,530 city; 943,142 urban agglomeration;^[27] 1,648,038 metro.^[1]
- 1969 – Pan-African Arts Festival held.^[28]
- 1972 – 5 July 1962 Stadium opens.
- 1973 - September: International summit of the Non-Aligned Movement held in city.
- 1975 – Hotel El-Aurassi in business.
- 1977 – Population: 1,523,000 city; 1,740,461 urban agglomeration.^[29]
- 1978 – July: All-Africa Games held.
- 1982 – Martyrs Memorial erected.
- 1985 – National Institute for Global Strategic Studies headquartered in city.^[25]
- 1988 – October: Anti-government demonstrations.^{[3][5]}

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1990s [edit]

See also: *Timeline of the Algerian Civil War*

- 1990
 - March: African Cup of Nations held.
 - Population: 1,819,000 (urban agglomeration).^[18]
- 1991 – Political unrest.^[3]
- 1992
 - August: Algiers airport bombing.
 - Casbah of Algiers designated an UNESCO World Heritage Site.^[9]
- 1994
 - 24 December: Air France Flight 8969 hijacked at Algiers Airport.^[23]
 - National Library of Algeria building inaugurated.
- 1997 – Algiers Stock Exchange established.
- 1998 – Population: 2,988,145.
- 2000
 - *L'Expression* ^[fr] newspaper begins publication.
 - Population: 2,278,000 (urban agglomeration).^[18]

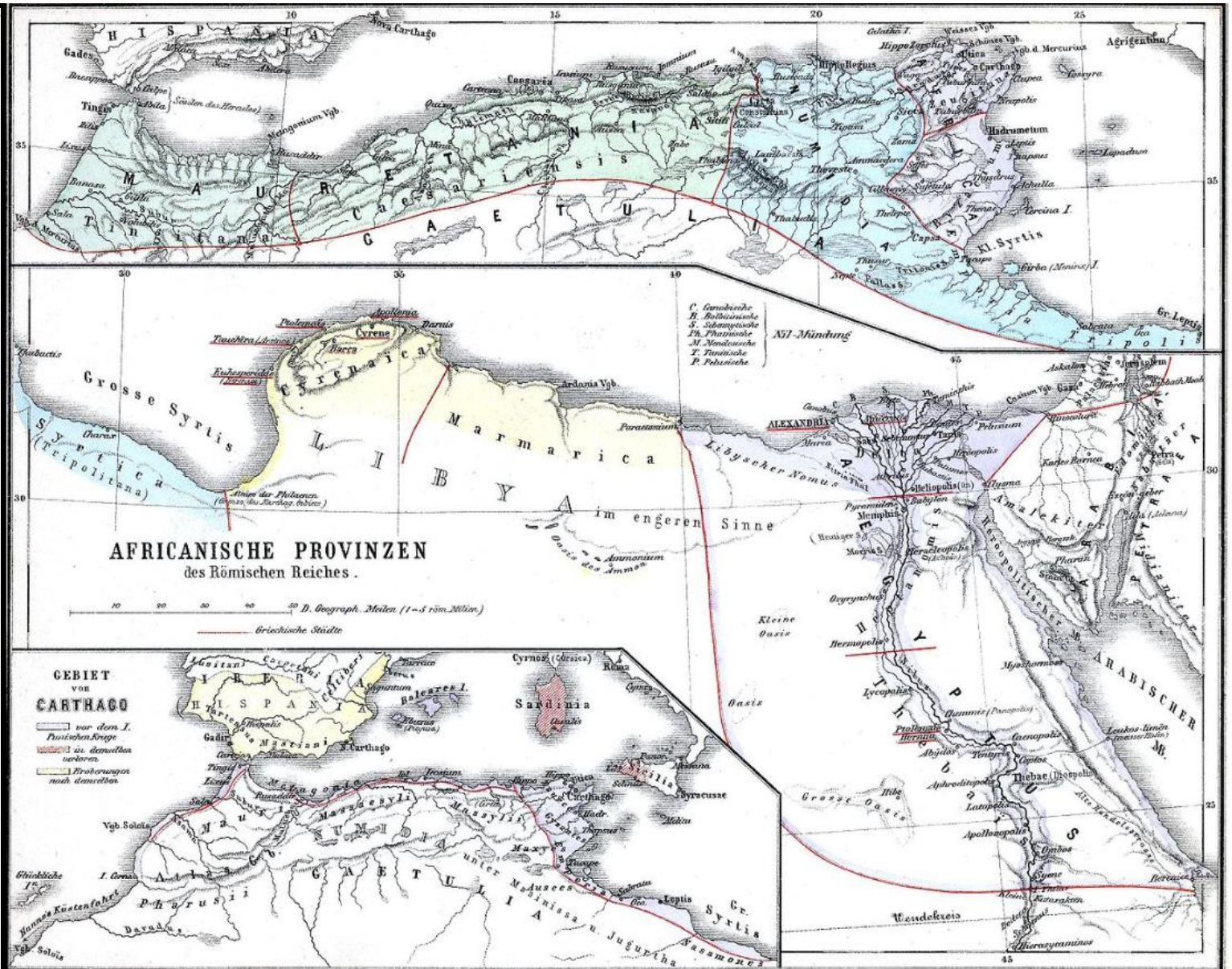
21st century [edit]

- 2001
 - Flood.^[30]
 - Algeria Cinema opens.^[31]
- 2003 – 21 May: The 6.8 M_w Boumerdès earthquake affected northern Spain's Balearic Islands.
- 2004 – September–October: 2004 Pan Arab Games held.
- 2007
 - Museum of Modern Art of Algiers inaugurated.
 - April: Bombings.^[30]
 - July: All-Africa Games held.
 - 11 December: Bombings.
- 2008 – Centre Commercial Al Qods shopping mall opens.
- 2009 – Centre Commercial Bab Ezzouar built.
- 2010 – Protests.
- 2011
 - Protests.
 - Algiers Metro and Algiers tramway begin operating.^[30]
 - Population: 2,916,000 (urban agglomeration).^[18]
- 2018 - African Youth Games to be held in Algiers.



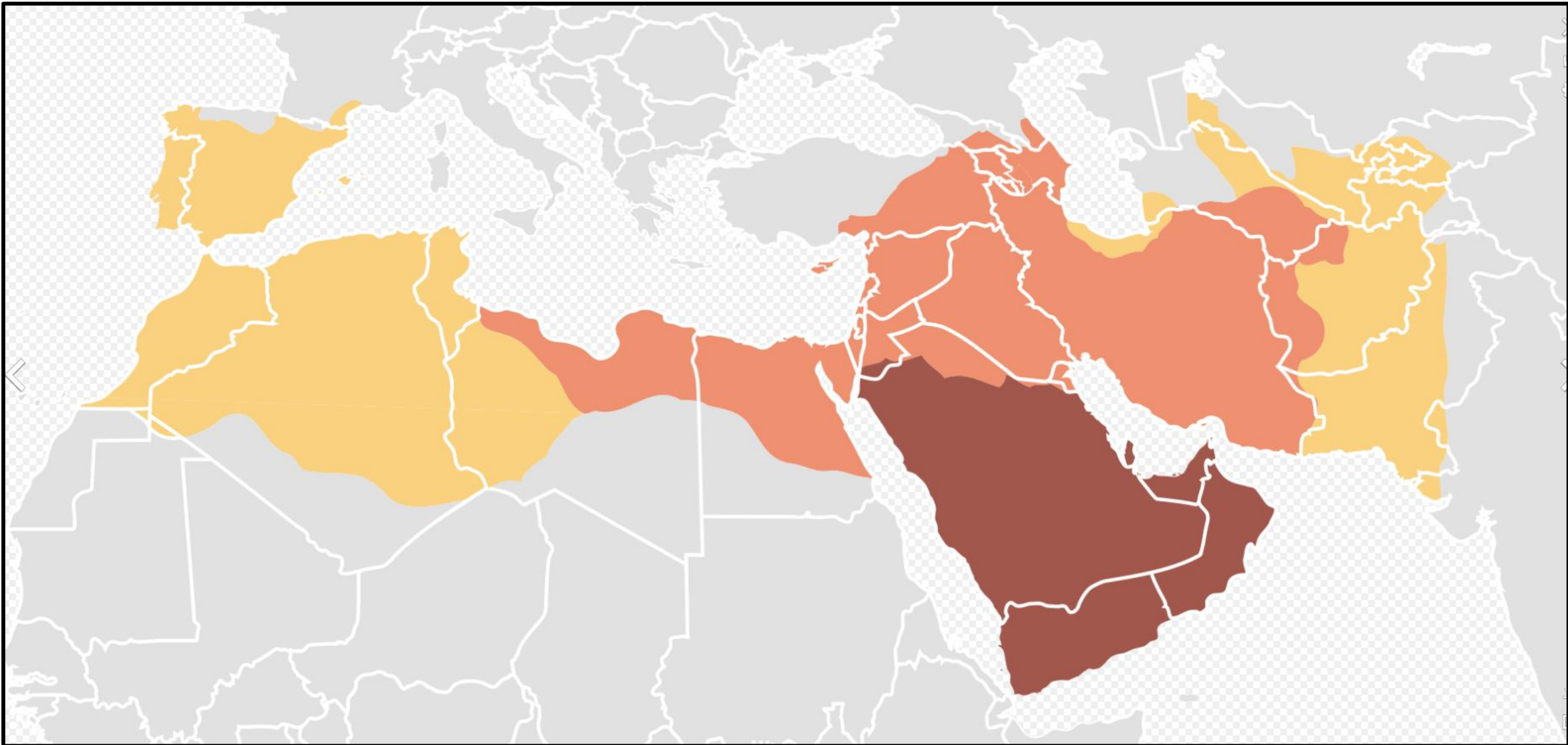
Map of Numidia at its greatest extent

Capital	Cirta (today Constantine, Algeria)
Common languages	Numidian, Latin, berber, Punic ^[1]
Government	Monarchy
King	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 202–148 BC Masinissa • 60–46 BC Juba I of Numidia
Historical era	Antiquity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established 202 BC • Annexed by the Roman Republic 40 BC 	
Preceded by	Succeeded by
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Carthage Massylii Masaesyli 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roman Republic Mauretania
Today part of	Algeria, the western part of Tunisia



Ancient episcopal sees of **Numidia** listed in the *Annuario Pontificio* as titular sees:^[9]

- **Alba** (in the region of Qarentina)
- **Ampora**
- **Aquae** (Henchir-El-Hammam)
- **Aquae Novae**
- **Aquae Thibilitanae** (Hammam-Meskhoutine)
- **Arae**
- **Arsacal** (Goulia)
- **Augurus** (ruins of Sidi-Tahar and Sidi-Embarec?)
- **Ausuccura** (Ascours?)
- **Azura**
- **Babra, Numidia** (ruins in the territory of Babar)
- **Badiae** (Badès)
- **Bagai** (Ksar-Bagai)
- **Baia, Numidia** (Henchir Settara? Henchir-El-Hammam?)
- **Bamaccora**
- **Barica**
- **Belesasa**
- **Betagbara**
- **Bocconia**
- **Buffada**
- **Burca**
- **Caesarea** (Youks-les-Bains, Henchir-El-Hammam)
- **Caesariana** (ruins of Kessaria)
- **Calama**
- **Capsus, Numidia** (Ain-Guigba)
- **Casae Calanae**
- **Casae** (El Madher)
- **Casae Medianae** (Henchir-El-Taouil?)
- **Casae Nigrae** (near Negrine)
- **Castellum** (Henchir-Gastal)
- **Castellum Titulianum**
- **Castra Galbae** (Ksar-Galaba?)
- **Cataquas** (near Annaba)
- **Cediae** (Oum-Kif)
- **Celerina** (Guebeur-Bou-Aoun)
- **Cemerianus**
- **Centenaria** (Henchir-El-Harmel? Henchir-Cheddi?)
- **Centuria** (ruins of Aïn-Hadjar-Allah? Fedj-Deriasse?)
- **Centuriones** (ruins of El-Kentour)
- **Ceramussa** (Gueramoussa?)
- **Chullu** (Collo)
- **Coeliana** (Ain Tine)
- **Cuicul** (Djémila)
- **Diana** (Numidia) (Aïn Zana)
- **Dusa**
- **Fata**
- **Fesseë**
- **Forma** (ruins of Kherbet-Fraim?)
- **Fussala**
- **Gadiaufala** (Ksar Sbehi)
- **Garba** (ruins of Aïn-Garb)
- **Gaudiaba**
- **Gauriana** (Henchir-Gourai?)
- **Gemellae**
- **Germania** (ruins of Ksar-El-Kelb?)
- **Gibba** (Henchir-Dibba)
- **Gilba**
- **Giru Marcelli**
- **Girus** (in the region of Djemila?)
- **Girus Tarasii**
- **Guzabeta** (ruins at Henchir-Zerdan?)
- **Hospita**
- **Idassa** (has namesakes) (near Merkeb-Talha)
- **Idicra** (Aïn-Aziz-Bin-Tellis)
- **Iucundiana**
- **Iziriana**
- **Irzidzada**
- **Lambaesis** (in the territory of Batna)
- **Lambiridi** (Kherbet-Ouled-Arif)
- **Lamiggiga** (Seriana)
- **Lamphua** (Aïn-Foua)
- **Lamsorti** (Henchir-Mâfouna)
- **Lamzella** (Henchir-Resdis)
- **Leges** (in the territory of Mila or Annaba)
- **Legia**
- **Legis Volumni**
- **Liberalia** (oasis of Lioua?)
- **Limata** (in the territory of Mila)
- **Lugura** (Aïn-Laoura?)
- **Macomades** (Merkeb-Talha)
- **Macomades Rusticiana** (Canrobert, Oum-El-Bouaghi?)
- **Madaurus**
- **Mades**
- **Magarmel** (Aïn-Moughmel?)
- **Mascula** (Khenchela)
- **Mathara**
- **Maximiana** (ruins of Mexmeia?)
- **Mazaca**
- **Merouana** (Lamasba)
- **Mesarfelta**
- **Meta**
- **Midila** (Mdila?)
- **Milevum**
- **Mons** (near Mdila)
- **Moxori**
- **Mulia** (ruins of El-Milia?)
- **Municipa**
- **Musti**
- **Mutugenna** (ruins of Aïn-Tebla?)
- **Naratcata**
- **Nasai** (Aïn Zoul?)
- **Nebbi** (in the territory of Tobma)
- **Nicives** (N'Gaous)
- **Nigizubi**
- **Nigrae Maiores** (Besseriani)
- **Nova Barbara** (ruins of Beni-Barbar?, Henchir-Barbar?)
- **Nova Caesaris**
- **Nova Germania** (near Khamissa)
- **Nova Petra** (ruins of Encedda?)
- **Nova Sinna**
- **Nova Soarsa**
- **Octava**
- **Pauzera**
- **Pudentiana**
- **Regiana** (Henchir-Tacoucht?)
- **Respecta**
- **Ressiana** (in the territory of Mila)
- **Rotaria** (Henchir-Loulou, Renier?)
- **Rusicade** (Skikda)
- **Rusticiana**
- **Seleuciana**
- **Sigus**
- **Sila** (Bordj-El-Ksar)
- **Silli**
- **Sinitis** (near Annaba)
- **Sistroniana**
- **Sitifis** (Setif)
- **Suava**
- **Summa** (ruins of Zemma?)
- **Tabuda** (Thouda)
- **Tacarata** (in the territory of Mila or in that of Annaba)
- **Tarasa** (Henchir-Tarsa?)
- **Teglata**
- **Thagaste**
- **Thagora**
- **Thamugadi**
- **Theveste**
- **Thiava** (near Annaba or Souk-Ahras)
- **Thibaris**
- **Thibilis** (Announa)
- **Thinisa**
- **Thubunae**
- **Thubursicum** (Khemissa)
- **Thucca** (Henchir-El-Abiodh)
- **Tiddi**
- **Tigillava** (Mechta-Djillaoua)
- **Tigisis** (Aïn el-Bordj)
- **Tipasa in Numidia**
- **Tisedi** (near Aziz-Ben-Tellis)
- **Tituli in Numidia** (ruins of Aïn-Nemeur? ruins of Aïn-Merdja?)
- **Tullia** (near Annaba)
- **Turres** (in the territory of Annaba)
- **Turres Ammeniae**
- **Turres Concordiae**
- **Tubusuptu** (Tiklat)
- **Turris Rotunda**
- **Ubaza** (Terrebaza)
- **Vaga** (modern day Béja)
- **Vadesi**
- **Vagada** (ruins of El-Aria?)
- **Vageata**
- **Vagrauta**
- **Vatarba**
- **Vegesela in Numidia** (ruins of Ksar-Bou-Saïd? Ksar-El-Kelb? Henchir-El-Abiodh?)
- **Velefi** (ruins of Fedj-Es-Soyoud?)
- **Verrona** (Henchir-El-Hatba)
- **Vescera** (Biskra)
- **Vicus Caesaris**
- **Vicus Pacati** (Ain-Mechara?)
- **Villa regis** (near Tobna)
- **Zaba** (ruins of Tolga in the territory of Zab?)
- **Zarai**
- **Zattara** (Boucheouf District)
- **Zerta** (near Merkeb-Talha)

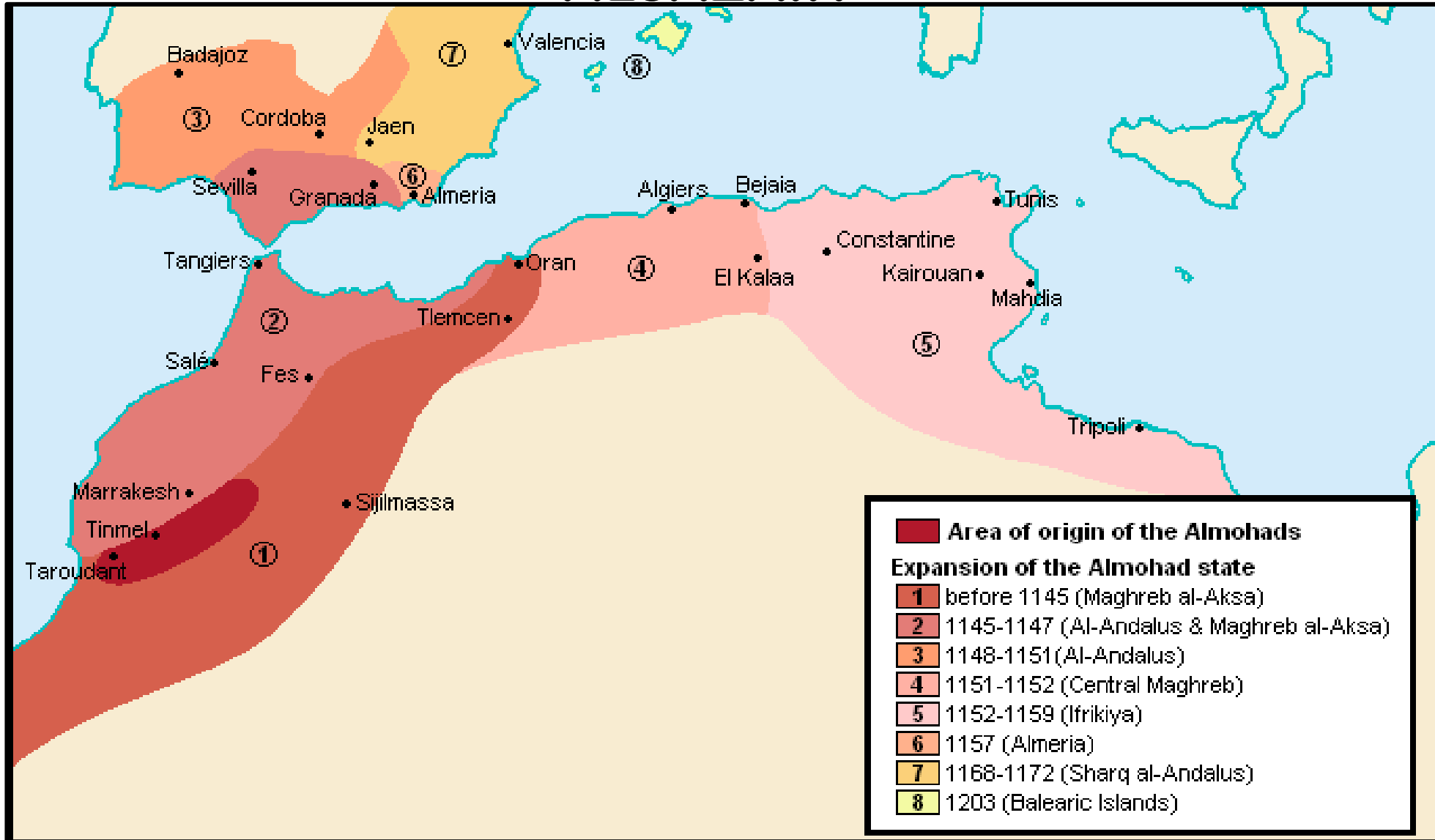


The Age of the Caliphs ■ Prophet Muhammad, 622-632 ■ Patriarchal Caliphate, 632-661 ■ Umayyad Caliphate, 661-750

 More details

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numidia>

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The [Zayyanid kingdom](#) of Tlemcen in the fifteenth century and its neighbors

French Algeria
 Algérie française (French)
 الجزائر الفرنسية (Arabic)

1830–1962





Flag Seal

Anthem: *La Marseillaise*



Chronological map of French Algeria's evolution.

Status	<i>Départements</i>
Capital and largest city	Algiers
Official languages	Arabic · Berber · French
Government	French Department
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrender of Algiers July 5 1830 • Algerian Independence July 5 1962
Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total 2,381,741 km² (919,595 sq mi)
Currency	Budju (1830–1848) Franc (1848–1962)
Time zone	UTC+1 (CET)
Date format	dd/mm/yyyy
Driving side	right
ISO 3166 code	DZ
Preceded by	Succeeded by
 Regency of Algiers	People's Democratic Republic of Algeria 
Today part of	 Algeria

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French conquests in North Africa



Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia in the 19th century

Date	1830–1934
Location	North Africa
Result	French victory

Belligerents

 July Monarchy	 Ottoman Empire
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regency of Algiers Beylik of Tunis Moroccan rebels

Casualties and losses

3,336 killed in action, 92,329 dead in the hospital (1830–51) ^[1]	Algerians 500,000–1,000,000 dead (1830–75) ^[2]
9,445 dead (1911–34)	Moroccans 100,000 dead (1911–34) ^[3]



Distinguished Moorish women, Algiers, 1899



Arabs disputing, Algiers, 1899



Arabs at a cafe, Algiers, 1899



Algiers - the embankment and Boulevard de la Republique 1894



Algiers - the new Mosque Djamaa, El-Djedid 1894



Algiers - depot and station grounds of Algerian Railway 1894

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A chronology of key events:

1830 - France seizes Algiers, ending Algeria's three centuries as an autonomous province of the Ottoman Empire.

1939-1945 - The collapse of France and the Anglo-American occupation of North Africa during Second World War encourages hopes for independence.

1945 - Pro-independence demonstrations in Setif. Thousands are killed in suppression of ensuing unrest.

1954-1962 - Algerian War of Independence.

1962 - Algeria gains independence from France.

1963 - Ahmed Ben Bella elected as first president.

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Algerian War

الثورة الجزائرية
Tagrawla Tadzayrit
Guerre d'Algérie

Part of the **Cold War** and the **decolonisation of Africa**



Collage of the French war in Algeria

Date 1 November 1954 – 19 March 1962
(7 years, 4 months, 2 weeks and 4 days)



Location Algeria

Result Military stalemate^{[1][2][3][4]}

- FLN political victory
- Évian Accords
- Algerian independence
- End of the French colonial empire^{[5][6][7][8][9]}
- Collapse of the Fourth French Republic and establishment of the Fifth Republic

Territorial changes Independence of Algeria

Belligerents

 FLN
 MNA
 PCA

 France
Supported by
 United States

 FAF
(1960–61)
 OAS OAS
(1961–62)

Support:

 Spain

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Strength		
300,000 identified	470,000 (maximum	3,000 (OAS)
40,000 civilian support	reached and maintained from 1956 to 1962) ^{[1]:17}	
	1.5 million total mobilized ^[10]	
	more than 90,000 Harkis	
Casualties and losses		
140,000 ^[11] to 152,863	25,600 French	100 dead (OAS)
FLN soldiers ^{[12][13]}	soldiers dead	2,000 jailed (OAS)
including 12,000	65,000 wounded ^[15]	
internal purges ^[14]	50,000 harkis (pro-	
(4,300 Algerian from	France forces) killed	
the FLN and MNA	or missing ^[16]	
killed in metropolitan	^[17]	
France)	6,000 European	
	civilian deaths	
250,000–300,000 (including 55,000 to 60,000 civilians) ^[18] Algerian casualties		
1 million Europeans fled ^[19]		
2,000,000 Algerians resettled or displaced ^{[20][1]:13}		

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1965 - Col Houari Boumedienne overthrows Ben Bella, pledges to end corruption.

1976 - Col Boumedienne introduces a new constitution which confirms commitment to socialism and role of the National Liberation Front as the sole political party. Islam is recognised as state religion.

1976 December - Col Boumedienne is elected president and is instrumental in launching a programme of rapid industrialisation.

1978 - President Boumedienne dies and is replaced by Col Chadli Bendjedid, as the compromise candidate of the military establishment.

1986 - Rising inflation and unemployment, exacerbated by the collapse of oil and gas prices, lead to a wave of strikes and violent demonstrations.

Independence



- Some 250,000 were killed in eight-year independence war
- 1954: National Liberation Front launches revolt against French rule
- 1962: Referendum in France backs independence accord
- 3 July 1962: Algeria becomes independent

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Ban on parties lifted

1988 - Serious rioting against economic conditions.

1989 - The National People's Assembly revokes the ban on new political parties and adopts a new electoral law allowing opposition parties to contest future elections.

1989 - Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) founded and over 20 new parties licensed.

1990 - The FIS wins 55% of the vote in local elections.

1991 - In the first round of general elections in December the FIS wins 188 seats outright, and seems virtually certain to obtain an absolute majority in the second round.

Descent into conflict

1992 January-February - Army forces President Chadli to dissolve parliament and resign, replacing him with a Higher State Council chaired by Mohamed Boudiaf.

Leader: Ahmed Ben Bella



- 1954: Led newly-formed National Liberation Front

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Government declares state of emergency and disbands the FIS and all its local and regional council administrations, triggering ten years of bloody conflict with Islamist groups.

1992 June - Head of State Boudiaf is assassinated by a member of his bodyguard with Islamist links. Violence increases and the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) emerges as the main group behind these operations.

1994 - Liamine Zeroual, a retired army colonel, is appointed chairman of the Higher State Council.

1995 - Col Zeroual wins presidential election with a comfortable majority.

1996 - Proposed constitutional changes approved in a referendum by over 85 per cent of voters.

- 1957-62: Interned in France
- 1962-3: Became Algeria's first premier, then president
- 1965: Ousted in military coup; detained until 1979

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1997 - Parliamentary elections won by the newly-created Democratic National Rally, followed by the Movement of Society for Peace moderate Islamic party.

1999 - Former Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Bouteflika elected president after all opposition candidates withdraw over concerns and fairness and transparency of poll.

1999 - Referendum approves President Bouteflika's law on civil concord, the result of long and largely secret negotiations with the armed wing of the FIS, the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS). Thousands of members of the AIS and other armed groups are pardoned.

2000 - Attacks on civilians and security forces continue, and are thought to be the work of small groups still opposed to the civil concord. Violence is estimated to have claimed over 100,000 lives in Algeria since 1992.

Algeria's 'dirty war'



- Sparked by dissolution of assembly in 1992

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Algerian Civil War



Military deployed in the streets of Algiers, after the military coup against the Islamists, who took up arms later.

Date	26 December 1991 – 8 February 2002 ^[18] (10 years, 1 month, 1 week and 6 days)
Location	Algeria
Result	Government victory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIS victory in 1991 election cancelled by military coup, formation of FIS loyalist guerrillas GIA radicals declare war on FIS in 1994 after negotiations with government Spillover to France with Air France Flight 8969, 1995 Paris Métro and RER bombings^[17] AIS/FIS declare unilateral ceasefire in 1997 as a result of GIA's massacres of civilians Civil war subsided after government amnesty peace plan in 2000^[18] GIA largely ceased to exist by 2002, a dissident insurgency continued

Commanders and leaders

Mohamed Boudiaf †	Ali Kafi	Liamine Zérual	Abdelaziz Bouteflika	Mohamed Lamari (Chief of Staff)	Mohamed Mediène (Head of DRS)	Abassi Madani (POW)	Ali Belhadj (POW)	Abdelkader Hachani (POW) †	Anwar Haddam	Abdelkader Chebouti	Madani Mezrag	Mustapha Kartali	Ali Benhadjar	Abdelhak Layada (POW)	Djafar al-Afghani †	Cherif Gousmi †	Djamel Zitouni †	Antar Zouabri †	Hassan Hattab
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Strength

140,000 (1994) ^[19]	2,000 (1992)
124,000 (in 2001)	40,000 (1994)
100,000–300,000	10,000 (1996) ^[20]
local militia fighters ^[1]	

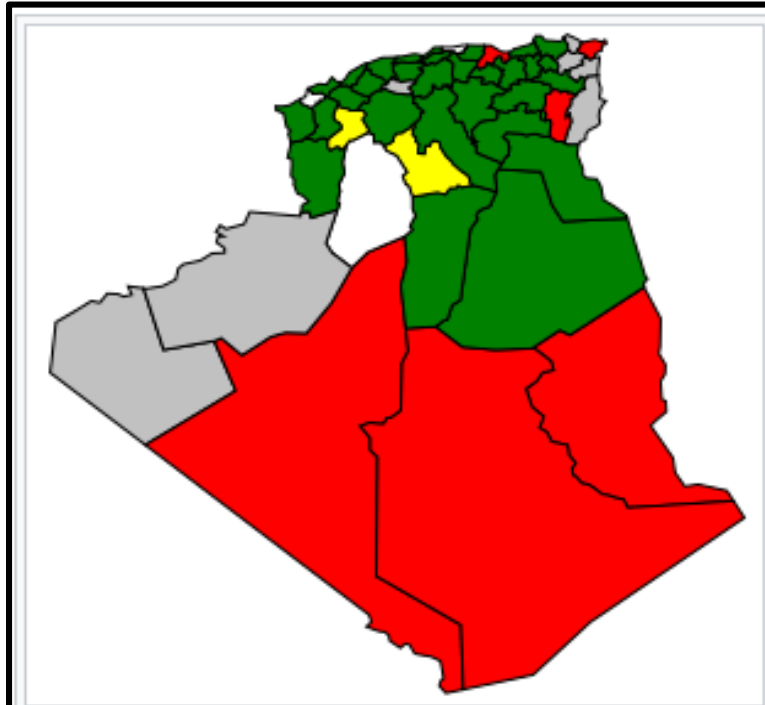
Casualties and losses

~ 150,000 total dead^[21]

Belligerents

Government of Algeria	FIS loyalists	GIA (from 1993)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANP Local militias^[1] DRS FLN RND (from 1997) Rally for Culture and Democracy Socialist Forces Front General Union of Algerian Workers MSI/Hamas MRI/Nahda OJAL (mid-1990s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIS (1994–99) MIA (until 1994) MEI (until 1994) FIDA (until 1996) MIPD (1996–97) LIDD (1997) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Afghan Arabs^[7] Takfir wal-Hijra
Supported by:	Supported by:	Supported by:
Sudan (alleged) ^{[8][9][10]}	Iran (alleged) ^{[8][9][10]}	Sudan (alleged) ^{[8][9][10]}
Libya (until 1995) ^[3]	Saudi Arabia (pre-war) ^[4]	Iran (alleged) ^[4]
Morocco (alleged) ^{[3][8]}	Morocco (alleged) ^{[3][8]}	Al-Qaeda ^[8]
Egypt ^{[2][3]}	Tunisia ^{[2][3]}	
France ^{[3][4]}	European Union ^[4]	
United States	South Africa ^[5]	
	Iran (alleged) ^[4]	
	Saudi private donors ^[4]	

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- FIS plurality
- FIS majority
- non-FIS majority
- Undecided
- No data available

In the above provincial seat allocation results of the **1991 elections**, the FIS attained a plurality of the votes in most of Algeria's populated areas.

1991 Algerian legislative election



← 1987

26 December 1991

1997 →

Only elections for 231 of the 430 seats to the **People's National Assembly** were completed
216 seats were needed for a majority



Leader	Abdelkader Hachani	Chadli Bendjedid	Hocine Ait Ahmed
Party	Islamic Salvation Front	FLN	Socialist Forces Front
Seats won	188	15	25
Popular vote	3,260,222	1,612,947	510,661
Percentage	47.3%	23.4%	7.4%

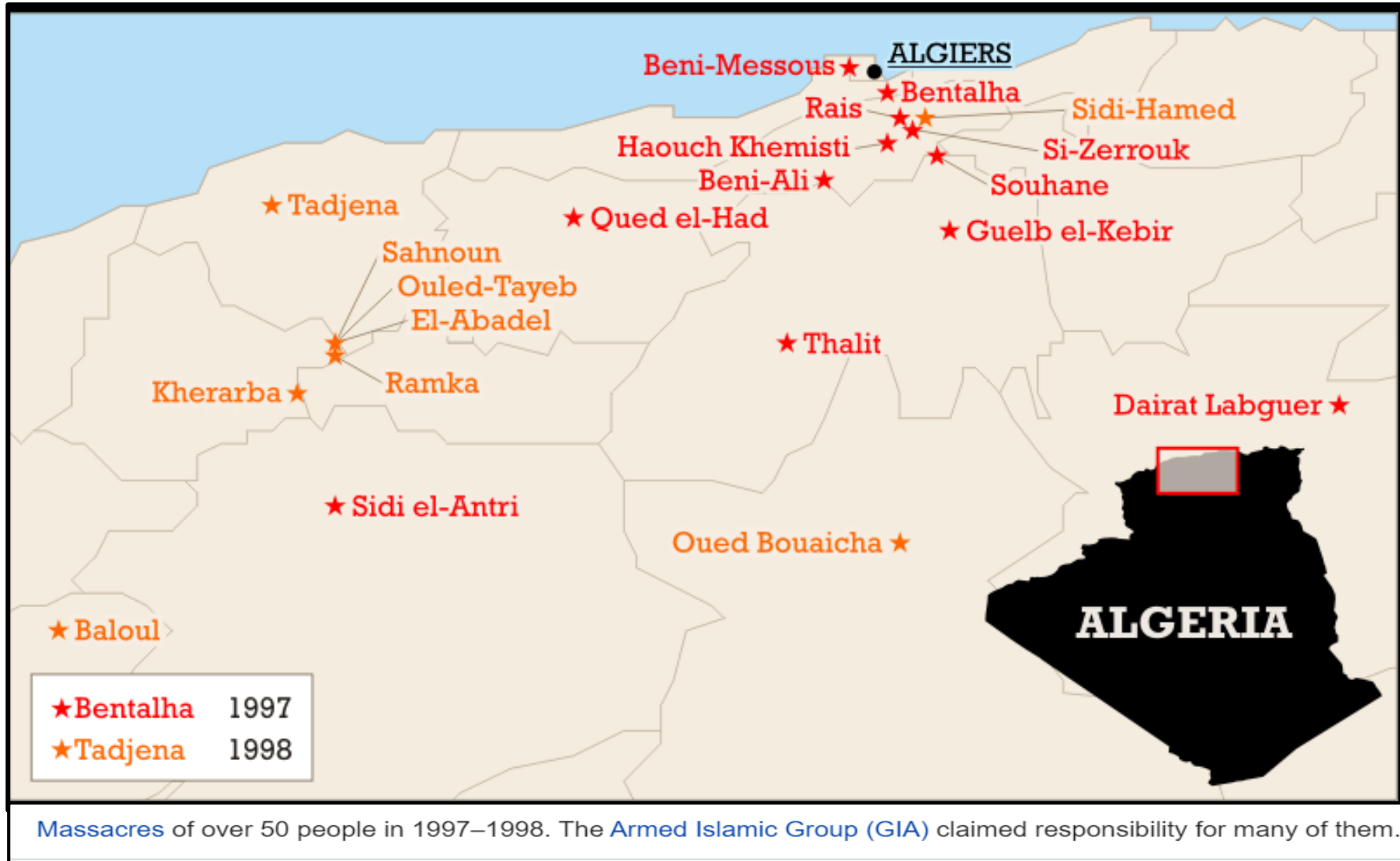
Prime Minister before election

Sid Ahmed Ghozali
FLN

Elected Prime Minister

Sid Ahmed Ghozali
FLN

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Berber concessions

2001 May - The mainly Berber party, the Rally for Culture and Democracy, withdraws from the government in protest against the authorities' handling of riots in the Kabylie Berber heartland.

2002 March - President Bouteflika says the Berber language, Tamazight, is to be recognised as a national language.

2002 June - Prime Minister Ali Benflis's National Liberation Front (FLN) wins general elections marred by violence and a low turnout. They are boycotted as a sham by four parties - two of which represent Berbers.

2003 21 May - More than 2,000 people are killed and thousands are injured by a powerful earthquake in the north. The worst-hit areas are east of Algiers.

- Islamic militants waged a decade-long campaign of violence
- Rights groups say up to 150,000 people were killed
- Official report says security forces responsible for 6,000 civilian disappearances



Scores of people were killed during Berber protests in Kabylie in 2001

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2003 June - Leader of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) Abassi Madani and his deputy Ali Belhadj are freed after serving 12-year sentences.

2004 April - President Bouteflika is re-elected to a second term in a landslide poll victory.

2005 January - Authorities announce the arrest of rebel Armed Islamic Group (GIA) head Nourredine Boudiafi and the killing of his deputy, and declare the group to be virtually dismantled.

Government makes deal with Berber leaders, promising more investment in Kabylie region and greater recognition for Tamazight language.

2005 March - Government-commissioned report says security forces were responsible for the disappearances of more than 6,000 citizens during the 1990s civil conflict.

2005 September - Voters back government plans to amnesty many of those involved in post-1992 killings in a reconciliation referendum.

2006 May - Algeria is to pay back all of its \$8bn debt to the Paris Club group of rich creditor nations, in a move seen as reflecting its economic recovery.

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Rise of al-Qaeda

2006 December - Roadside bomb hits a bus carrying staff of a US oil firm, killing one man. The Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC) claims responsibility.

2007 January - GSPC renames itself the al-Qaeda Organisation in the Islamic Maghreb and steps up attacks through over the next two years.

2007 April - Thirty-three people are killed in two bomb blasts in Algiers - one the prime minister's office. Al-Qaeda claims responsibility.

2007 May - Parliamentary elections: dozens are killed in the run-up, in a wave of fighting between the military and armed groups. Pro-government parties retain their absolute majority in parliament.

2007 September - Al-Qaeda's second-in-command Ayman al-Zawahiri urges north Africa's Muslims to "cleanse" their land of Spaniards and French.

2008 November - Parliament approves constitutional changes allowing President Bouteflika to run for a third term.

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2008 November - Parliament approves constitutional changes allowing President Bouteflika to run for a third term.

2009 April - President Bouteflika wins third term at the polls.

2009 July - Nigeria, Niger and Algeria sign an agreement to build a \$13bn pipeline to take Nigerian gas across the Sahara to the Mediterranean.

2010 April - Algeria, Mauritania, Mali and Niger set up joint command to tackle threat of terrorism.

Protests

2011 January - Major protests over food prices and unemployment, with two people being killed in clashes with security forces. The government orders cuts to the price of basic foodstuffs.

2011 February - President Abdelaziz Bouteflika lifts 19-year-old state of emergency - a key demand of anti-government protesters.

2011 September - President Bouteflika ends state monopoly over radio and TV.

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2012 May - Parliamentary poll: Ruling FLN and allied National Democratic Rally win another majority in parliament, with Islamists coming third, although some MPs allege fraud.

2012 October - The army kills al-Qaeda's deputy leader in Algeria, Boualem Bekai, alias Khaled al-Mig, in an ambush near Tizi Ouzou in the Kabylie region.

2012 December - French President Francois Hollande acknowledges suffering caused by France's colonisation of Algeria but stops short of an apology.

2013 January - Dozens of foreign hostages are killed by Islamist al-Murabitoun group in four-day siege at remote In Amenas gas plant. Algerian special forces storm the site.

2013 April - President Bouteflika suffers a stroke and spends three months in France being treated.

Gas plant siege



Dozens of foreign hostages were killed when Islamists besieged a gas complex

Algeria hostage crisis: What we know



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2014 April - Bouteflika wins another term as president in elections condemned by the opposition as flawed.

2014 September - Islamists behead French tourist Herve Gourdel after demanding that France end its support for the campaign against Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

2015 June - US airstrike reported to kill Mokhtar Belmokhtar, leader of the al-Murabitoun armed Islamist group, in eastern Libya, although his supporters deny this.

2015 September - President Bouteflika sacks Mohamed Mediene, head of the top intelligence body for 25 years; he was regarded as a major power behind the scenes.

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2016 - February - Parliament passes constitutional reforms limiting presidents to two terms, expanding the legislature's power and giving the Berber language official status.

2018 January - New Year celebrated by the Berber people is marked for the first time as a national public holiday.

End of Bouteflika

2019 April - Street protests prompt President Bouteflika to resign, having earlier postponed presidential elections because of political turmoil.

Abdelkader Bensalah, the speaker of the upper house of parliament, becomes interim president, but protests continue.

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INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL ISSUES

Algeria and Morocco are regional rivals, and Algeria rejects Morocco's administration of the Western Sahara territory. The Polisario Front, a rebel movement made up of the Sahrawi people living in Western Sahara, claims the territory as the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic. The Polisario, however, was outlawed by Morocco and is currently in exile. Algeria supports the Sahrawi rebels, and the Polisario Front's headquarters is in the Algerian city of Tindouf across the border from Morocco near the area claimed by the Sahrawi people. Although there have been protests by the Sahrawi in Western Sahara, Algeria and the Polisario have not engaged in armed conflicts with the Moroccans since the UN-issued ceasefire in 1991. There are approximately 90,000 Sahrawi refugees living in Algeria-sponsored camps. Since 2003, there have been talks between Morocco, Algeria and the Polisario to decide the future of the Western Sahara, with neither Algeria nor the Polisario willing to accept anything less than independence.

The border with Morocco is another source of tension, as both nations claim the other is harboring militants. This dispute dates back to the 1990s during the Algerian Civil War, in which Algeria accused Morocco of supporting the Armed Islamic Group of Algeria, a terrorist organization. In 1994, after Morocco accused Algeria of being complicit in a bombing in Marrakesh and deported a majority of Algerians in the country, Algeria closed its border indefinitely. The border remains closed to this day, although Morocco has indicated its desire for its reopening. Algeria has been unreceptive to the rhetoric of Moroccan officials, claiming the reopening of the border would be detrimental to national security. Given the nature of tribal Imazighen culture, which is not divided by state lines, the closed border has had a profound impact on familial relations as movement between the adjoining countries is restricted.

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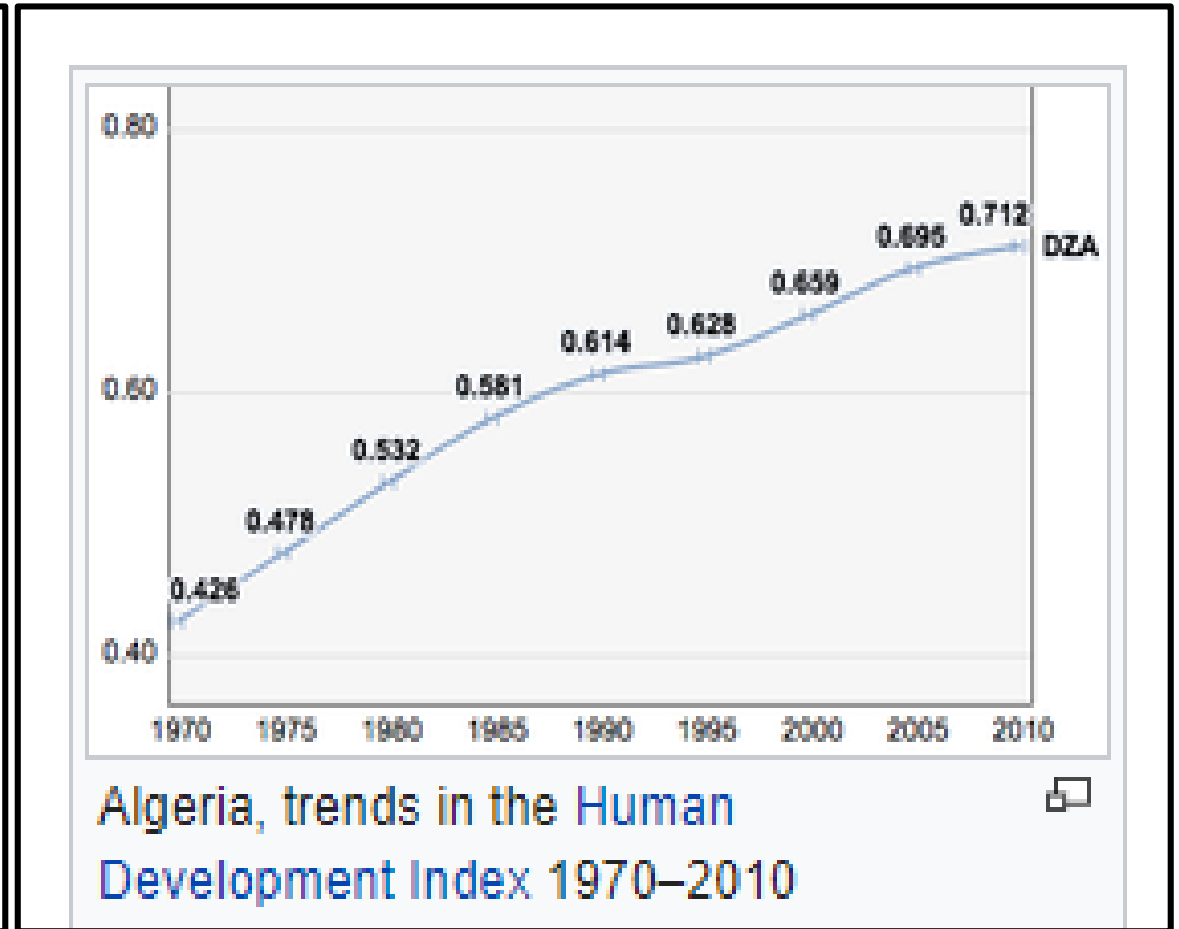
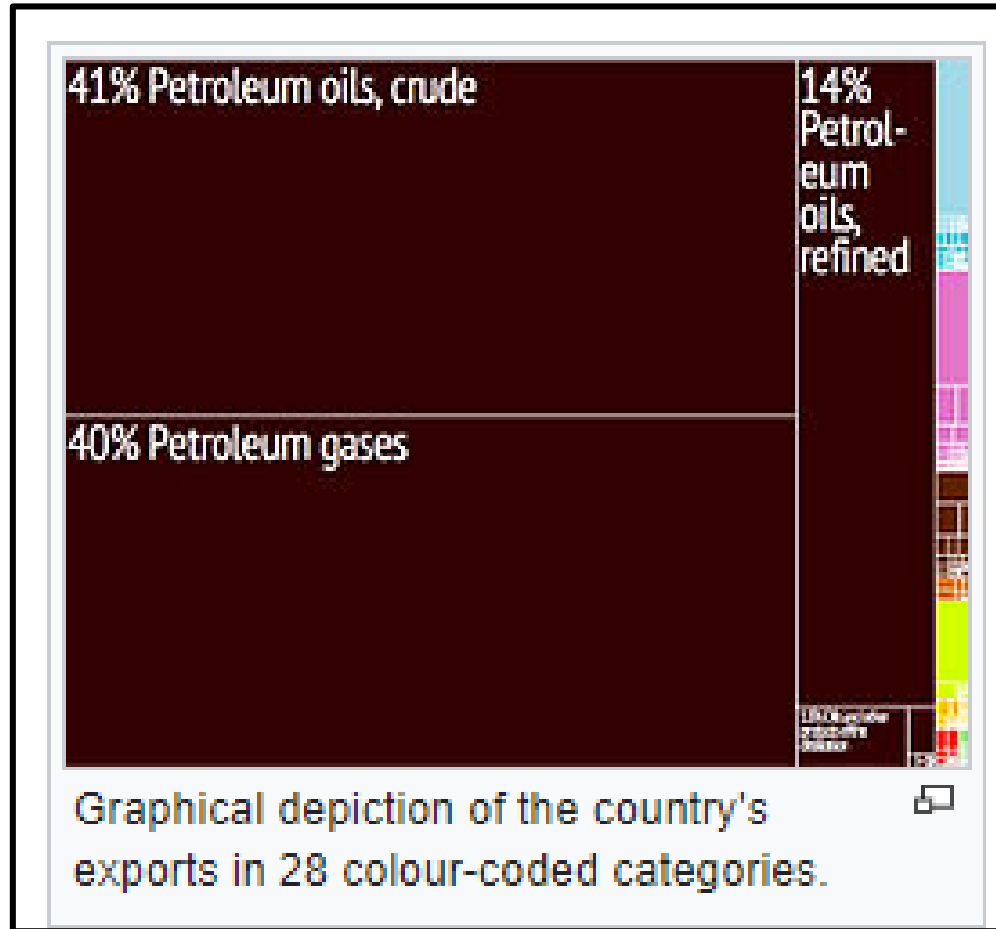
ECONOMY

Algeria's economy remains dominated by the state, a legacy of the country's socialist governmental structure which emerged after its independence. In recent years the Algerian government has halted the privatization of state-owned industries and imposed restrictions on imports and foreign involvement in its economy. The state still dominates the economy, but in 2016 the government passed a series of major constitutional amendments to strengthen Algeria's governing structure and deepen separation of powers. Oil and natural gas account for over 90 percent of exports and around 40 percent of GDP, which means Algeria is very sensitive to changes in the energy market. The slump in global oil prices since mid-2014 has significantly impacted Algeria's economy, and were a major catalyst in the 2016 constitutional amendments.

With declining revenues caused by falling oil prices, the government has been under pressure to reduce spending. A wave of economic protests in February and March 2011 prompted Algiers to offer more than \$23 billion in public grants and retroactive salary and benefit increases, moves which continue to weigh on public finances. In 2016, the government increased taxes on electricity and fuel, and in 2017 the value added tax was raised by 2% on nearly all products. The government has, however, refrained from directly reducing subsidies, particularly for education, healthcare, and housing programs.

Despite some changes to the economic structure, formal-sector unemployment and housing shortages remain high. Youth unemployment is still around 25%, and the budget deficit for Algeria was -13.3% of its GDP in 2016, placing it among the bottom 15 countries in the world. Long-term economic challenges for Algeria include diversifying the economy away from its reliance on hydrocarbon exports, bolstering the private sector, attracting foreign investment, and providing adequate jobs for younger Algerians.

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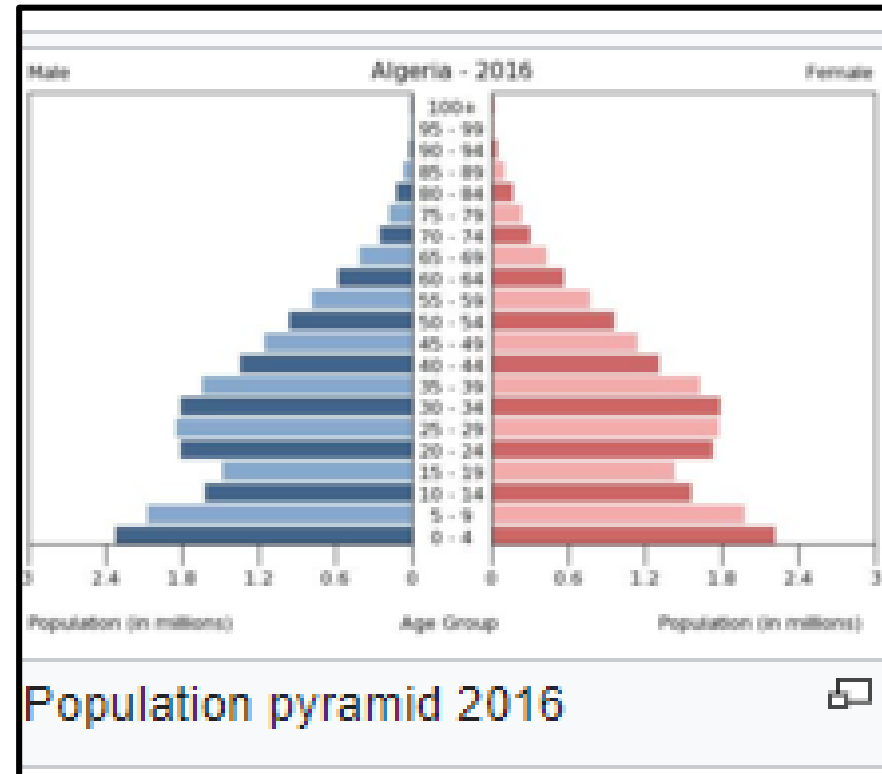
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Algeria has a population of 39,542,166 million and is the 34th most populous country in the world. The majority of the population (66%) lives along the coastline and in urban areas. The homogeneous Arab-Berbers account for 99% of the total population and only 1% is made up of people from France, Corsica, Spain, Italy, and Malta. The official language of the country is Arabic, although French is used for business and administrative tasks.

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Historical populations (in thousands)		
Year	Pop.	±% p.a.
1856	2,496	—
1872	2,416	-0.20%
1886	3,752	+3.19%
1906	4,721	+1.16%
1926	5,444	+0.72%
1931	5,902	+1.63%
1936	6,510	+1.98%
1948	7,787	+1.50%
1954	8,615	+1.70%
1966	12,022	+2.82%
1977	16,948	+3.17%
1987	23,051	+3.12%
1998	29,113	+2.15%
2008	34,080	+1.59%
2013	37,900	+2.15%

Source: (1856–1872)^[117]
(1886–2008)^[118]



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Period	Life expectancy in Years ^[7]
1950–1955	42.89
1955–1960	▲ 45.00
1960–1965	▲ 47.29
1965–1970	▲ 49.47
1970–1975	▲ 51.48
1975–1980	▲ 54.93
1980–1985	▲ 61.57
1985–1990	▲ 65.85
1990–1995	▲ 67.20
1995–2000	▲ 69.14
2000–2005	▲ 71.50
2005–2010	▲ 73.88
2010–2015	▲ 75.27

Historical population		
Year	Pop.	±% p.a.
1901	4,739,300	—
1906	5,231,700	+2.00%
1911	5,563,800	+1.24%
1921	5,804,200	+0.42%
1926	6,066,400	+0.89%
1931	6,553,500	+1.56%
1936	7,234,700	+2.00%
1948	8,681,800	+1.53%
2010	35,600,000	+2.30%
2011	36,300,000	+1.97%
2012	37,100,000	+2.20%
2013	37,900,000	+2.16%
2017	42,200,000	+2.72%

Source: Office National des Statistiques (ONS)^[1]

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Amazigh Flag

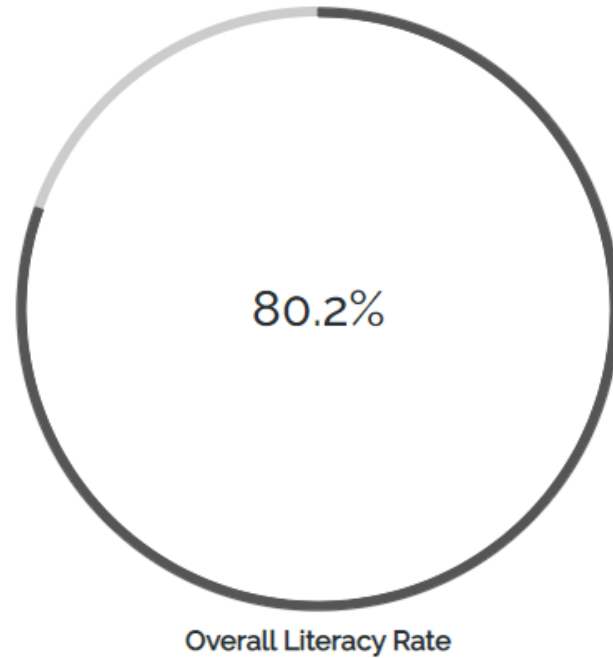
While most Algerians are Berber in origin, only 15% (5.7 million) identify solely as Berber. This group rejects Arab culture and adheres to ancient Berber traditions, such as living in tribes and in isolation from the modern world. The Berbers are split into four main groups: Kabylies, Chaouias, M'zabites and Tuaregs. The largest of these are the Kabylies, who live in the Kabylia Mountains east of Algiers and speak the Kabylie language. The Chaouias live in the Aurès Mountains of eastern Algeria and speak Shawiya Amazigh. The M'zabites in the northern Sahara live around isolated desert oases and speak Tumzabat. Finally, the Tuaregs, a traditionally nomadic people, travel through neighboring countries such as Mali, Niger, and Libya. They can be found in the Sahara desert in Algeria and speak Tuareg.

Berbers call themselves Imazighen, meaning noble or free born. The term 'Berber' derives from the Greek barbario and the Latin

barbari from which Arabs derived the term "barbariy," meaning primitive or foreign. The Berber people lived in Africa long before the arabization of Algeria in the mid-seventh century and their culture dates back almost 4,000 years. Since Algeria's independence from France in 1962, those who identify themselves as Berber have been fighting the Algerian government for increased political participation, governmental recognition, and use of the Berber languages in schools.

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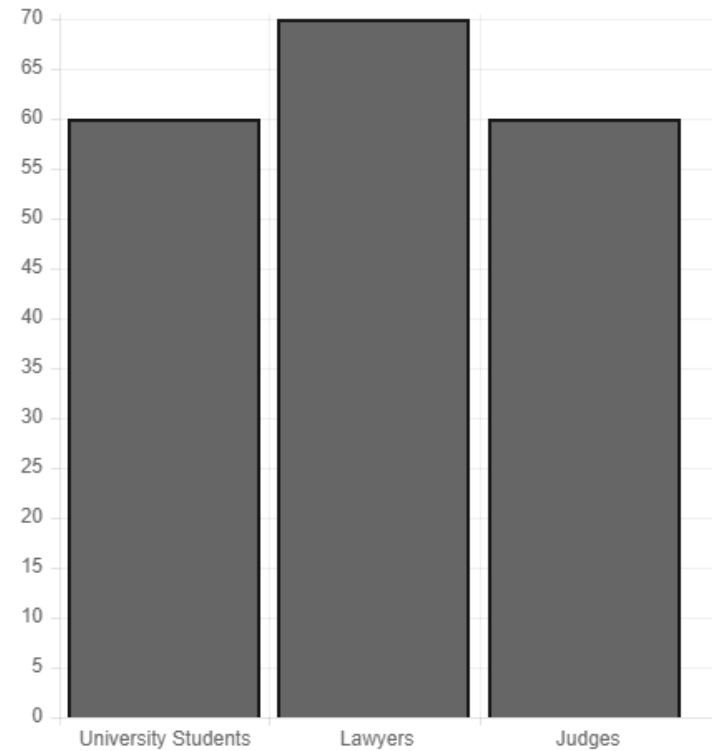
Of Algeria's 39 million people 80.2% can read and write. There is a sizable literacy gap between the men (87%) and women (73%), likely due to the discouragement of female education among rural groups. Despite the literacy gap, women are seen as a driving force for social change. Women constitute 60% of university students, 70% of Algeria's lawyers and 60% of its judges. Women have also gained greater protection against physical violence in Algeria's legal code (see [this link](#)).



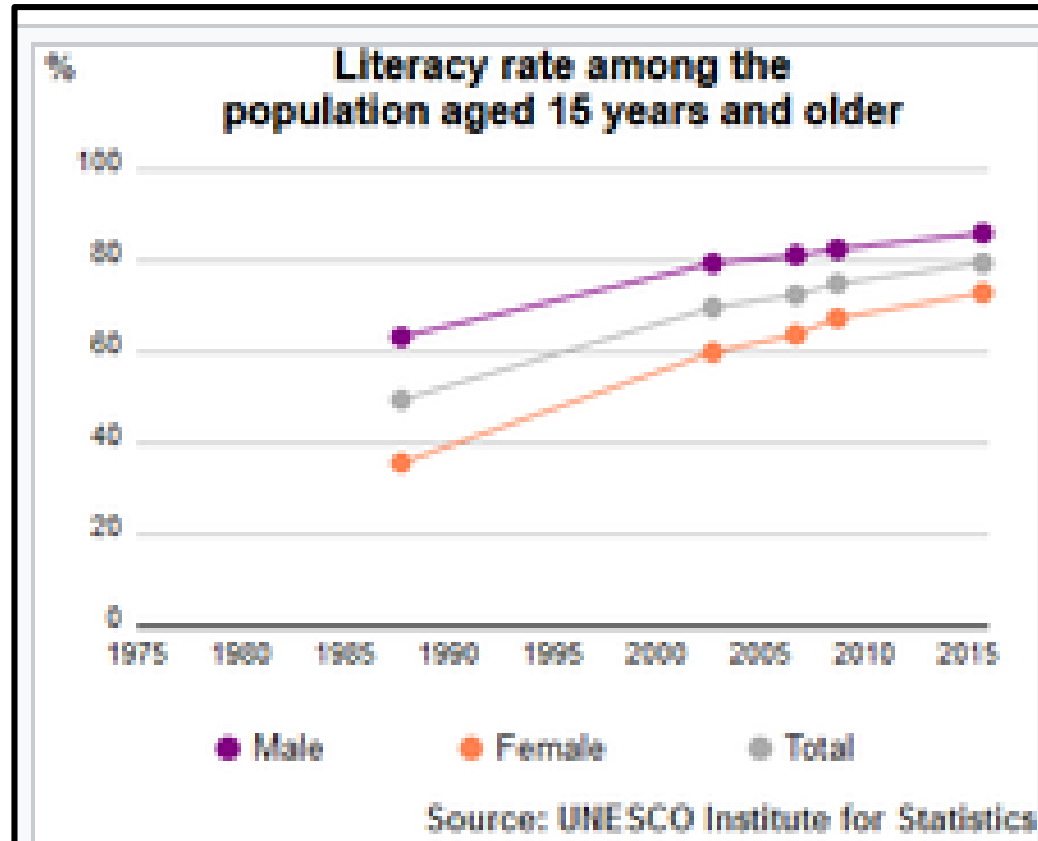
Gender Divided Literacy Rate



% of Women



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Pupils	Census
Primary school	3.452.000
Lower secondary school	3.240.000
Upper Secondary school	1.333.000
Total	8.023.000

UIS literacy rate Algeria population plus 15 1985–2015

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The average Algerian child can expect free and compulsory education for 9 years of primary school, starting at age 6. Less than half of students continue to secondary schooling which is divided into three branches: general, specialized/technical, and vocational. General and specialized/technical studies are completed in three years, whereas vocational may be completed in 1-4 years, depending on the industry in which the student is training. The University of Algiers, established in 1909, is the oldest institution of higher learning in Algeria. It offers degrees in law, Islamic sciences and medicine.

Healthcare is slowly improving in Algeria. Algeria slightly exceeds the WHO recommended ratio of physicians to patients at 1.2 doctors per 1,000 people, and the nation is focused on developing preventative care clinics instead of hospitals due to the youthful population. An immunization program is offered by the government, but poor sanitation and unclean water still causes cases of hepatitis, cholera, and dysentery, though they are infrequent. The poor receive free healthcare, and the wealthy are charged for healthcare based on a sliding scale. Healthcare access is increasing due to regulations that require all physicians to work in the public health sector for at least five years. Physicians are generally easier to access in the northern parts of the country than in the southern Sahara.

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RELIGION

Islam is the state and dominant religion with 99% of the population identifying as Muslim. Most Muslims follow the Maliki school of thought, founded by Imam Malik (711-795), who wrote *Al-Muwatta* (*The Approved*). *Al-Muwatta* is a collection of rituals, rites, customs, traditions and laws from the life of the Prophet Muhammad. *Al-Muwatta* includes only the verbatim sayings of Muhammad, which makes it unique as the Hadith (the record of the prophet's life that supplements the Quran as a source of religious guidance) contains the words of others in addition to Muhammad. Christianity first appeared in Algeria during the Roman Empire and started to disappear with its collapse, although interest in it was revitalized under the Byzantines. In the 7th century, after the Arab invasions, it disappeared entirely and did not return until the French colonization of Algeria.



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Today the number of Christian Algerians is small, and there is limited freedom of religion. Although there are ordinances in place that allow non-Sunni Muslims to worship as they please, in practice, the rights of Jews, Christians and other Muslims to worship in public are often restricted. Worshippers in religious minorities often meet in secret or informally, as only Sunni Muslims have the full protection of the law. In addition, the Algerian constitution bans non-Muslims from holding high-level government positions. There is also a ban on proselytizing, which prevents open religious discussions, and Muslim converts to Christianity face imprisonment, fines, or pressure to revert back to Islam.

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Religion in Algeria, 2010 (Pew Research)^[142]

Religion	Percent
Islam	97.9%
Unaffiliated	1.8%
Christianity	0.2%
Judaism	0.1%

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CULTURE

Algerian culture is a unique blend of tradition and outside influence. Over the centuries it has been formed by the influence of three different civilizations: Arab, African, and Mediterranean. The geographical position of Algeria has facilitated exposure to a variety of cultures and the mixing of several cultures at once, through trade for instance.

Food

Largely thanks to its rich history, and geographical location, Algerian cuisine reflects a variety of cultural influences. Durum wheat was a staple of the Berbers. When it is steamed it turns into couscous, which remains a staple of Algerian cooking to this day.

Couscous dishes (often served with lamb, chicken or cooked vegetables) are so common, they're often referred to as *ta'am* in Arabic, which simply translates as 'food'. Other kinds of grain – such as bulgur wheat and barley – can also be steamed (in a *couscoussier*) to create different varieties of couscous. Locally-grown crops such as potatoes, tomatoes, onions, chickpeas, olives and dates are common ingredients in Algerian dishes. In Saharan regions, dates and figs and hard cheeses are eaten with flat unleavened breads baked over fires.

Many dishes, especially stews, soups and sausages, have a hot or spicy flavor. A popular spicy soup is *chorba* (literally, "soup" in Arabic). The spicy flavors were brought over with the Arabs, who introduced Algeria to spices such as saffron, nutmeg and cinnamon.

The Ottoman Turks brought sweet pastries to the region. Many local sweets incorporate the staple wheat, such as *tamina*, into pastries or desserts. The wheat can for example be roasted with butter and honey. In former Spanish-controlled cities, such as Oran, dishes like *paella* are popular. The French introduced sidewalk cafés, and many eating places today serve traditional North African foods and drinks like mint tea and Turkish-style strong black coffee.

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Clothing

Algerian people have a strong sartorial tradition that is still adhered to today. Folk dresses are commonly worn, especially in rural areas. Many local designers use the traditional features of Algerian outfits in modern clothes. Western dress is very common in Algeria as well.

A *burnous* is a long woolen cloak with a hood traditionally used by Algerian men. Many Algerian garments are hooded because of the practical uses associated with hoods for the Algerian climate. It protects the wearer from the sun, desert winds, and sand, and in the mountain regions it protects from the cold, rain, and snow. Usually, the burnous is white and made from the fine thin wool. A burnous is often very festive, decorated with embroidery, tassels, and patterns on the fabric. This garment is used in several Arab countries.

Another piece of Algerian traditional clothing is a *djellaba*, a garment that is used in several North African countries. It is a loose, long-sleeved robe with a hood, used by both men and women. The color of a djellaba tells the marital status of the wearer: light colors for married men and dark brown color for bachelors. Traditionally it was ankle-length or ground-length but modern djellabas are a little shorter. The male djellaba is more loose and plain than women's one.

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Traditional female outfits are usually bright and colorful, with rich decorations in gold and silver threads. The modest clothing is often fitted with lace, patterns on the fabric, jewelry, and so on. Algerian women wear different long dresses that cover their body from head to toe. Commonly, the traditional loose trousers are worn underneath the dress. Most Algerians are Muslim, so the women tend to cover their heads with types of veils.

One of the traditional Algerian dresses is called "karakou". It always consists of a velvet jacket embroidered with gold threads. Usually, the jacket is worn with the traditional Arab trousers called "saroual", but modern karakou can be used with a long skirt.

The traditional Algerian male headdress is a fez. It is a felt, tight-fitting cap in the shape of a short cylinder. Usually, a fez is red. The fez is particularly popular in the countries that used to be a part of the Ottoman Empire.

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Film & Literature

Algerian literature has a rich history, but only gained prominence outside of Algeria during the early to mid-20th century. The Nobel Prize-winning author Albert Camus was born in French-Algeria to French parents. Camus was a philosopher, novelist and playwright, and was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1957. Most of his stories are set in Algeria and he supported civil rights for the indigenous Algerians. However, Camus opposed Algerian independence, which has damaged his reputation in his homeland.

Frantz Fanon emerged as a revolutionary writer and figure for Algeria during its struggle for independence from France. Fanon was born in Martinique, but moved to Algeria in 1953, a year before the uprising against the French began. Fanon has emerged as one of the most influential writers on post-colonialism in the world, with books such as *Les Damnés de la Terre* (The Wretched of the Earth) and *L'An V de la Révolution Algérienne* (A Dying Colonialism). He devoted much of his life to supporting the independence movement of Algerians and wrote about the cultural and political struggles of decolonization movements globally.

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Music

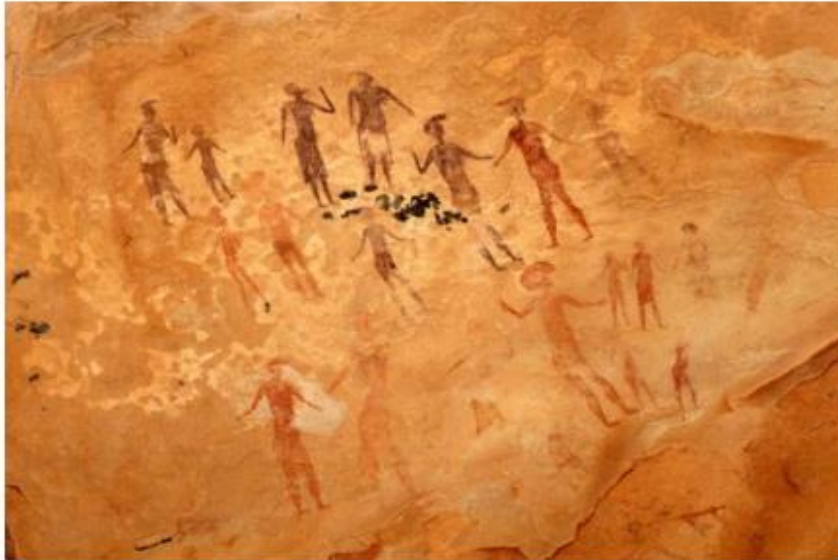
Two of the most popular genres of music found in the North African and Arab regions have originated in Algeria: Algerian Chaabi ("folk") and Rai. Chaabi is a combination of classical Arab and Andalusian music with traditionally deep moral messages of love, loss, celebration, and friendship. El Hadj M'Hamed El Anka (1907-1978) is considered the master of both Andalusian and Algerian Chaabi music in Algeria. He was an accomplished musician who recorded over 360 songs on 130 albums throughout his lifetime

By far the most popular type of modern music is Rai, a mixture of Western and traditional Algerian Bedouin (nomadic) music. Translated as "opinion," Rai appeals to young people who use it as an outlet to express political and social discontent. It is more abrasive and louder than the traditional music that comes out of the region. Rai music expresses opposition to government authoritarianism and conservatives' religious ideals. Its popularity has spread to France, Spain and other Middle Eastern countries.

The most famous Rai artist is Cheb Khaled, the legendary "King of Rai." Born in Oran, Algeria, he began recording in his early teens and is considered the most famous Algerian singer in the Arab world. He has sold over 46 million albums worldwide and his 1992 hit single, "Didi," propelled him into international stardom. Likewise, Cheb Khaled's French and Algerian Arabic "**Aicha** 🇩🇿", released in 1996, rose to the top of a multitude of international music charts. The song features the title subject's rejection of a suitor's offer of fanciful gifts and adoration in favor of equal rights and respect as a woman.

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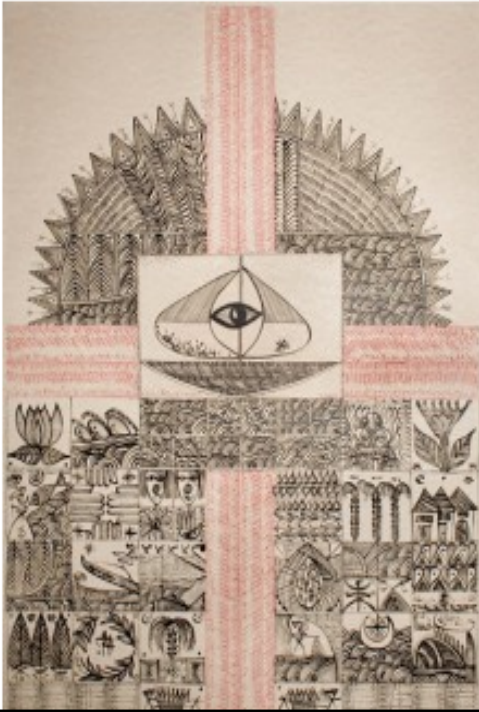
Art



Wall and cave paintings found at Tassili n'Ajjer (left) are the oldest forms of art in Algeria and depict the lives of the ancient people that lived there. The art in Tassili n'Ajjer has been classified into five different periods from 12,000 CE to 1,000 CE and later. The first is the Large Wild Fauna Period, which depicts the relationship the people had with the animals. The second is the Round Head Period, which shows human-like figures with large featureless round heads. The third is the Pastoral Period, which focuses on when the indigenous Algerians became dependent on pastoral animals, followed by the Horse Period, which begins showing men with weapons and chariots. The final period is the Camel Period, which depicts camels and uses the Taureg language. There are over 15,000 drawings and engravings at Tassili n'Ajjer.

Algerian artists are known for their intricate paintings, sculptures and woven tapestries. Mohammed Racim is a famous painter considered to be the "Father of Miniatures" and is recognized as one of the most highly regarded cultural and national influences in Algeria. His miniature paintings are hand-painted in water color or oil and are no more than a few inches in dimension. They usually contain historical recreations or depict everyday cultural events. Racim's work in the 1930s made him a significant cultural and political figure in Algeria as his work often portrayed a fictional Algerian future without the influence of French colonizers and a rich and prosperous past before French rule.

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A popular style of modern art displays abstract calligraphy and decorative traditions of Islamic art (such as traditional signs and symbols), combined with contemporary abstract art. Certain artists, for example, look to traditional Berber art for symbols, which they might use as structural elements in their works, amplifying some and reinventing others, as in the work of the Algerian artist Rashid Koraishi. Koraishi's sculpture explorations extend across a range of media, including ceramics, textiles, various metals and painted silk, paper and canvas. Rashid begins with Arabic calligraphic scripts and incorporates symbols, glyphs and ciphers drawn from a wide variety of languages and cultures.

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Sites



Great Mosque of Algiers | © Habib Boucetta

Algeria's many mosques and places of worship draw many visitors. The Great Mosque of Algiers is the oldest mosque in the capital from 1097 CE, and one of the oldest in the nation. Roman Catholic churches, reminiscent of colonial rule, such as la Cathédrale du Sacré-Coeur in Oran, are also of interest. This cathedral was founded in 1913 and converted into a public library in 1996. The city of Oran itself is a major tourist destination. It is often referred to as "little Paris" by locals due to the remnants of French influence noticeable in the city's architecture. It is also the birthplace of Rai music.

<http://teachmideast.org/country-profiles/algeria/>

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Algeria is home to a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Roman ruins are common throughout the country and two of the best known are Timgad and Djemila. Timgad, about 68 miles southwest of Algiers was established as a Roman military colony by Emperor Trajan in 100 CE. Timgad prospered until it was sacked by Vandals in the 5th century. Djemila is notable for the adaptation of Roman architecture to a mountain environment. It was built in the first century C.E. by Nerva and occupied by Romans until the fall of the empire. Mزاب Valley, 372 miles south of Algiers and in the heart of the Sahara, refers to the five fortified villages (ksour) that make up the area. The five villages circle a mosque and are known as the Pentapolis. Mزاب Valley was established between 1012 and 1350 CE and exemplifies communal living in a harsh environment.

Tassili n'Ajjer, a mountain range in the Sahara Desert, is home to pictographs that depict human activities in the region from 6,000 BCE to the beginning of the current era (see 'Art'). It also has more than 500 natural arches. Read more about the pictographs in the art section above.

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