The Middle East and North Africa: Necktie, Turban, and Chador

Question: Why was peace not possible in the Middle East?

Hypothesis: The Democratic Peace Proposition holds out hope for such a lasting peace, but was, and will continue to be, challenged by religious extremists and big-power interests.

I. Democracies

A. Turkey
   1. Joined NATO (1952)
   2. Joined EEC (1964)

B. Egypt (independence 1922)
   1. Farouk (1921–1965), ruled as king from 1937 to 1952
   2. Gamal Abdul Nasser (1918–1970), Prime Minister 1954–56; President 1956–70
   4. Hosni Mubarak (1928–), President 1981–present

C. Israel
   1. U.N. Partition Plan, November 1947
   2. Declaration of Israeli state, May 15, 1948
   3. Arab-Israeli War 1948–1949
   4. Lavon Affair, 1954
      b. Pinhas Lavon, Defense Minister 1954
   5. Suez War, 1956
   7. Yom Kippur War, October 6–24, 1973
   8. Egypt-Israel Peace
   9. Wants to expand settlement in West Bank (Greater Israel)

II. Authoritarian Governments

A. Syria (independence 1946)
B. Iraq (independence 1932)
   2. Ahmed Hassan Bakr, President 1969–1979

C. Kuwait (independence 1958)

D. Libya
   1. Muammar Qadaffi (1942– ), Commander in Chief and Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, 1969–present

E. Iran (theocratic republic proclaimed in 1979)
   1. Mohammed Mossadeq (1882–1964), Prime Minister 1951–1953

F. Lebanon (independence 1946)

G. Jordan (independence 1946)

H. Saudi Arabia
   1. Saud, 1953–1964
   2. Faisal, 1964–1975
   4. Fahd, 1982–present

III. Wild Cards

A. Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) (founded 1964)
   a. Al-Fatah (conquest), acronym in reverse for *Harakat al-Takhrir al-Falsatini* (Movement for the Liberation of Palestine)
   b. Yasser Arafat (1929– ), head of PLO since 1969
   c. wants destruction of Israel

B. Hamas (founded 1987)
   a. Paelstinian branch of Muslim Brotherhood

Conclusion: Slow progress was, and continues to be, made toward peace