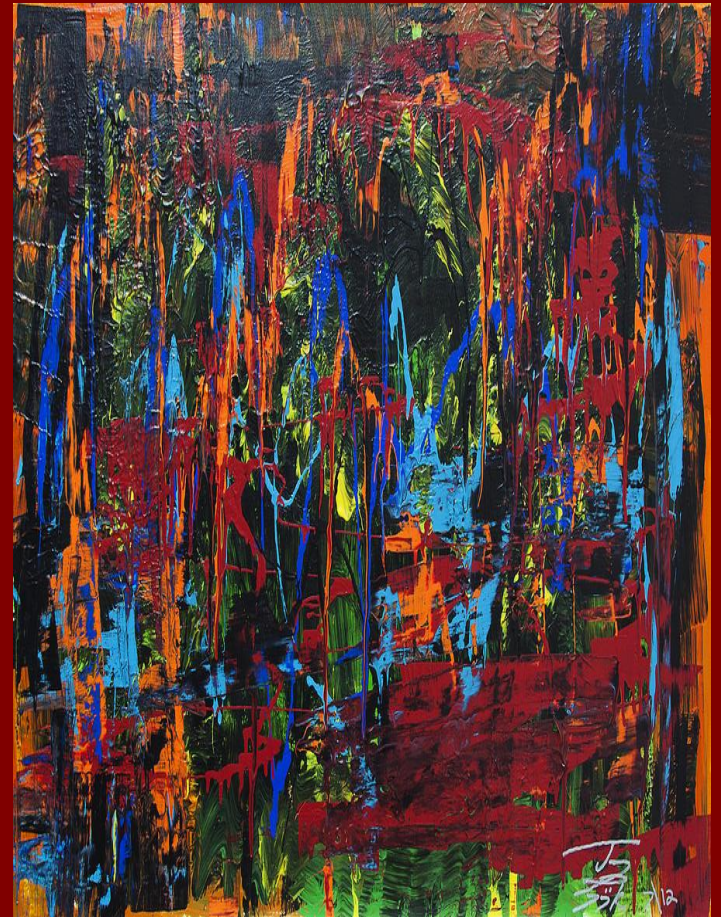


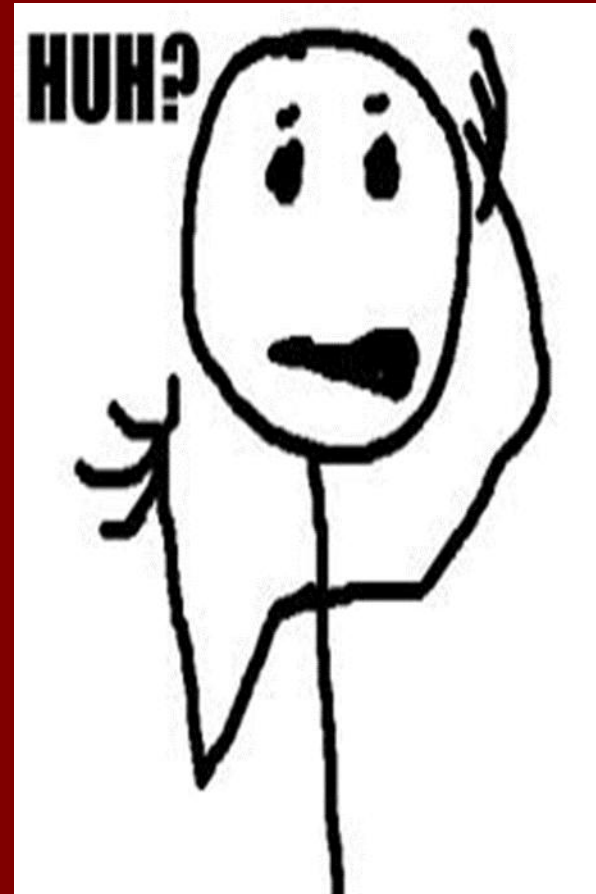
# Why Conflict Resolution Fails

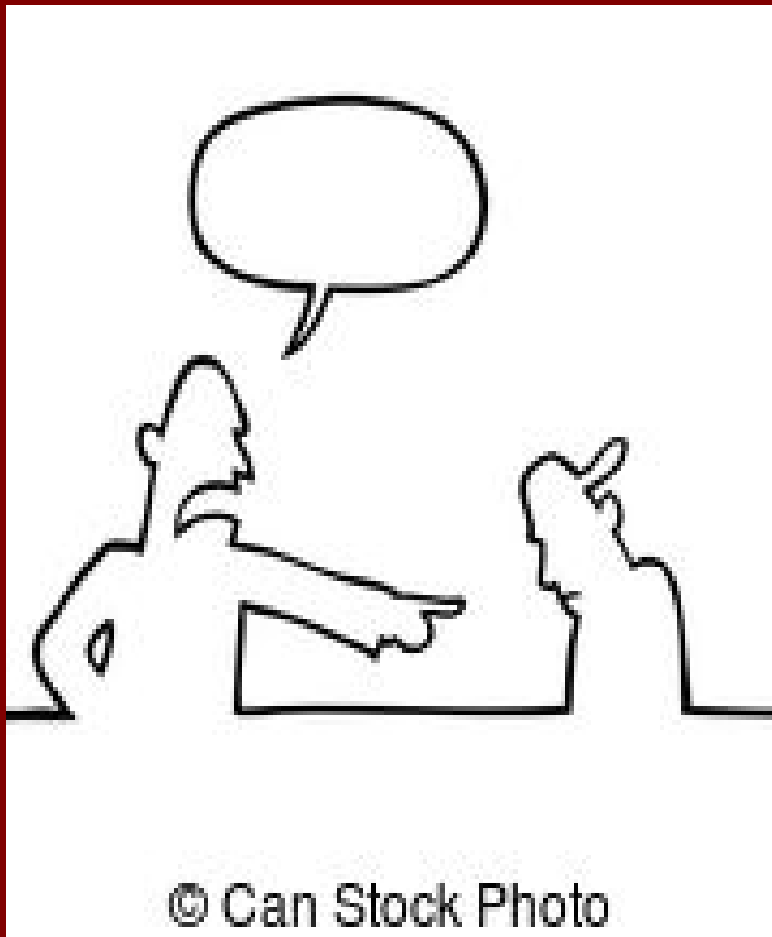
- Third Age Learning Lecture Series
- Thursday, February 1, 2018
  - Ian S. Spears
- Department of Political Science
  - University of Guelph



# Why war?

- If war is so destructive and causes so much misery, why does it continue?





- The hazards of studying violent conflict ....

# Huambo Angola





# Are African leaders “competent”?



The wars that Africa did *not*  
have...



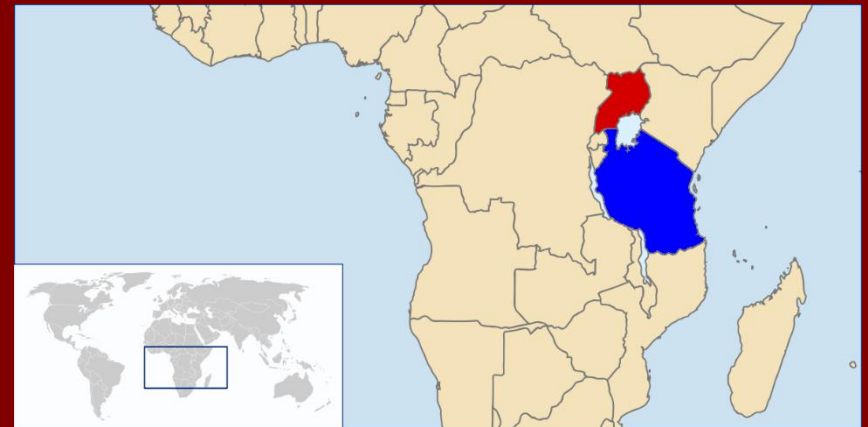
# The Peace of Africa

- In 1977-78, Somalia invaded Ethiopia.



# The Peace of Africa

- In 1978-79, Tanzania invaded Uganda.





# The Peace of Africa

- In 1998-2000, there was a border war between Ethiopia and Eritrea.



# The Peace of Africa

- The Congo civil war (1994-2003).





# Namibia





# Kenya-Tanzania Border



# Surprise!

- Imagine that you woke up to discover that you were the first prime minister of a newly independent African or Middle Eastern country



# Much to do ... but the phones don't work



# Challenges of ruling



**SIZE  
MATTERS**



These countries: Belgium, plus...



# Italy, plus ...



# Switzerland, plus ...



# Germany, plus ...





# Great Britain, plus ...



# Austria, plus ...

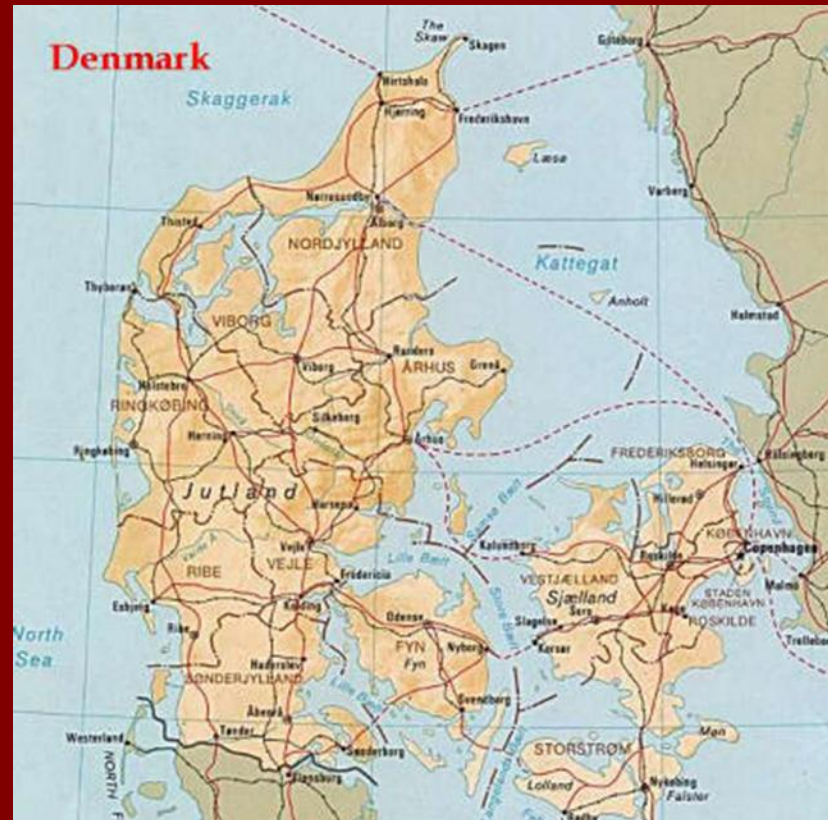


# Greece, plus ...





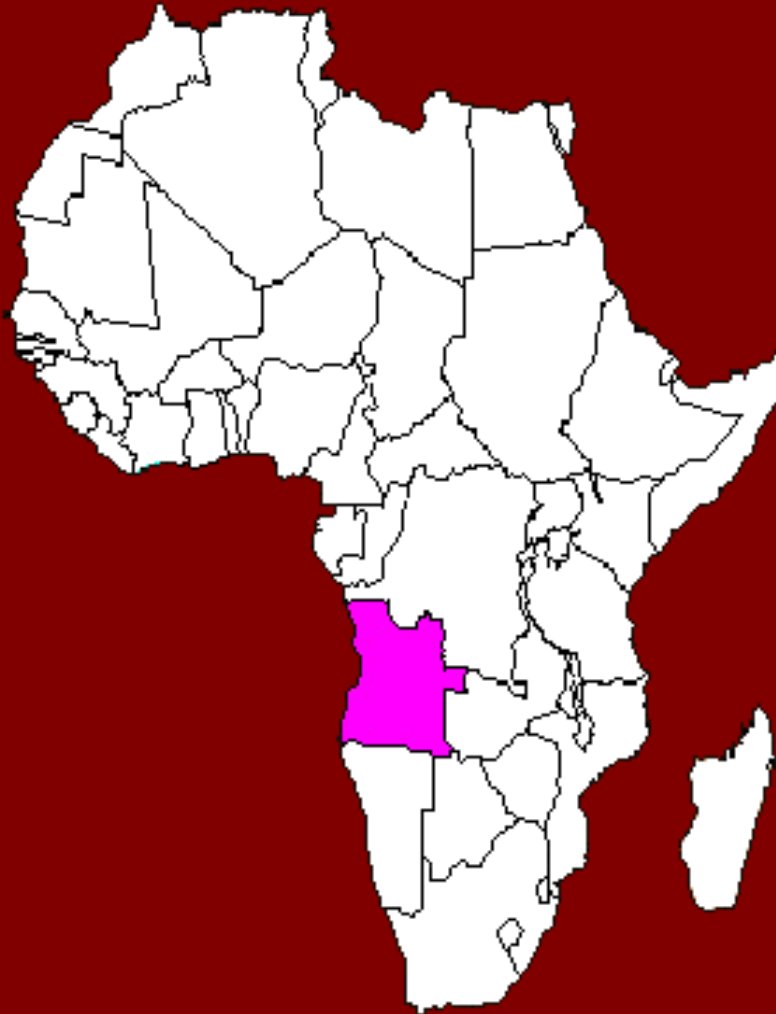
# Denmark





$$= 1,233,070 \text{ sq km}$$

.... Which is the same size as (actually less than) this country (Angola)...



... or, about half the size of this country.



# Western Europe =



- Spain
- Portugal
- Greece
- Italy
- Austria
- Switzerland
- France
- Belgium
- Germany
- Netherlands
- United Kingdom
- 2,375,439 sq. km

# The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) 2,344,885 sq. km.





# Challenges of ruling

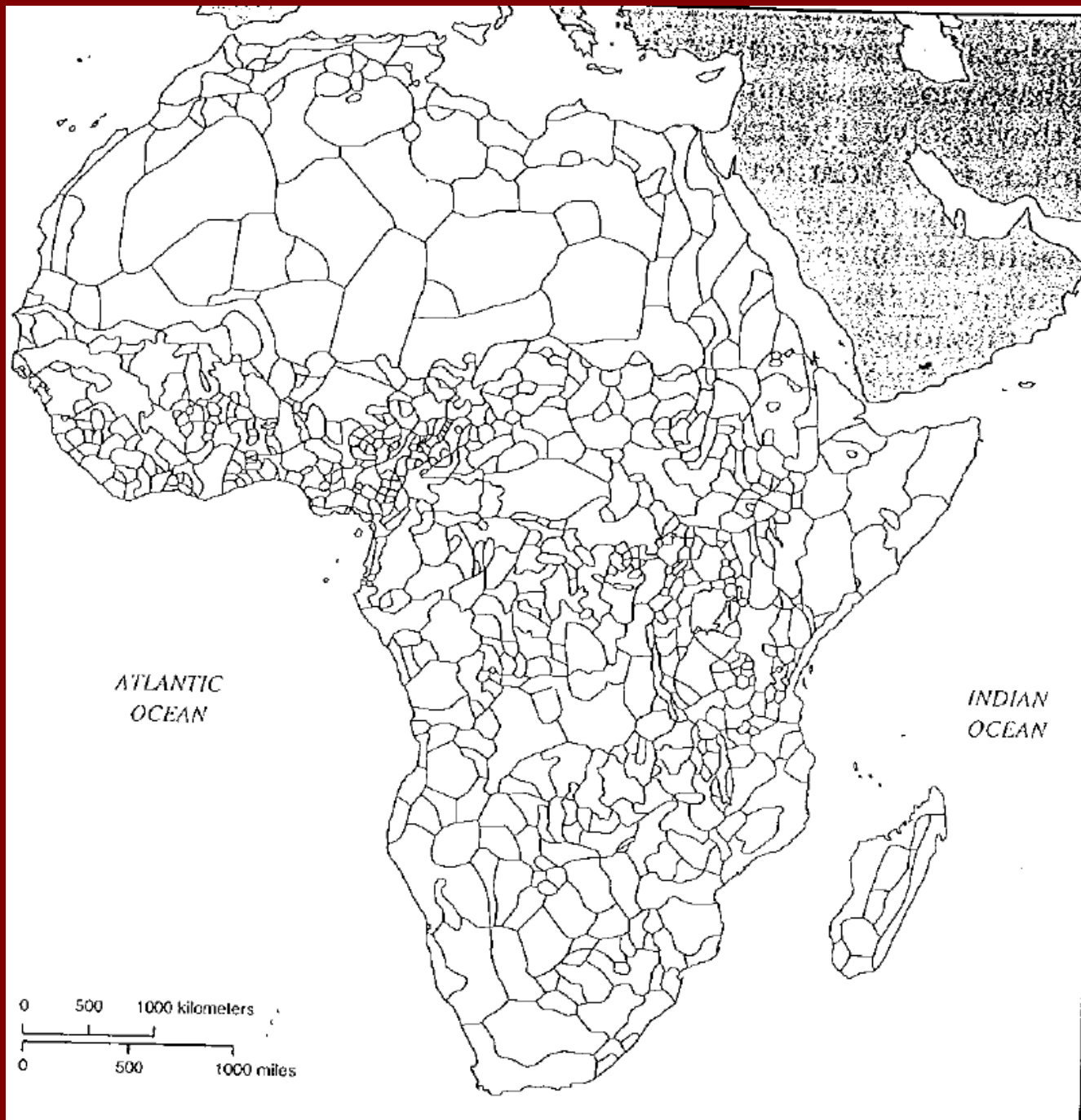
## Diversity Matters













# Challenges of ruling

- Given this diversity, whose political traditions would you follow?



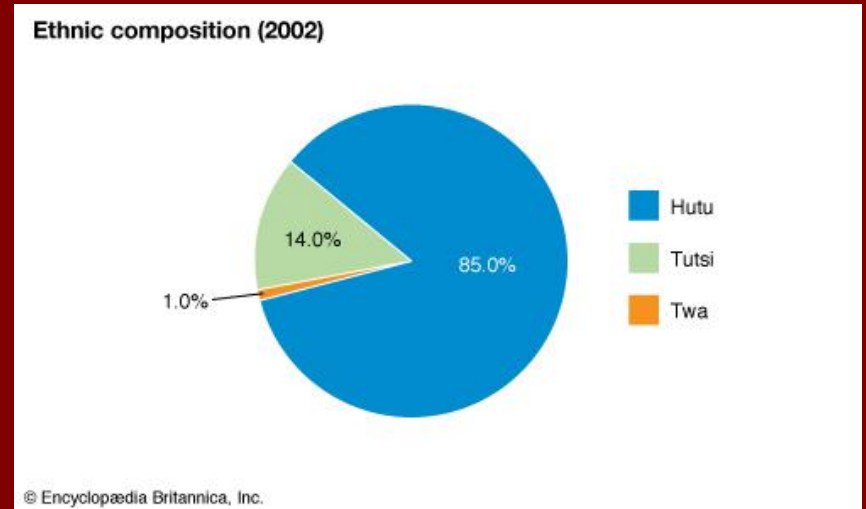
# Challenges of rule



- Are your voting preferences *fixed*?
- How often do you change political parties?

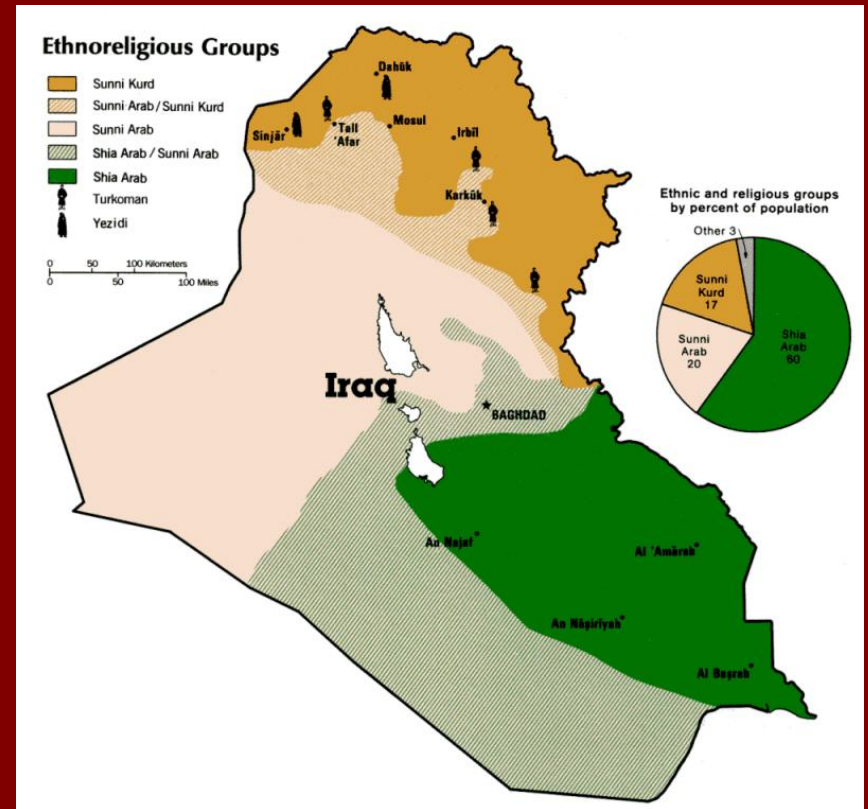
# Challenges of ruling

- How do you feel about democracy if you are part of the Tutsi minority in Rwanda?



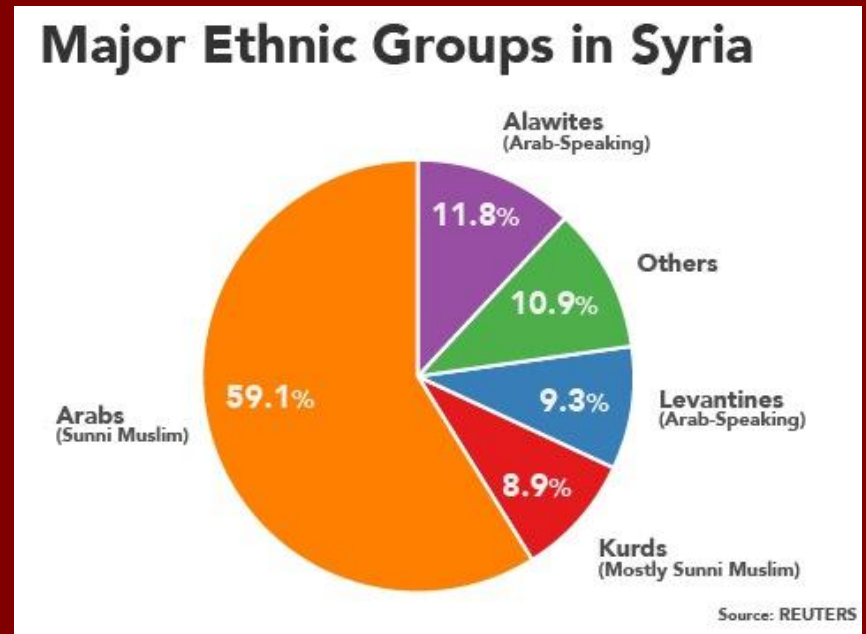
# Challenges of Ruling

- How do you feel about democracy if you are part of the Sunni minority in Iraq?



# Challenges of Ruling

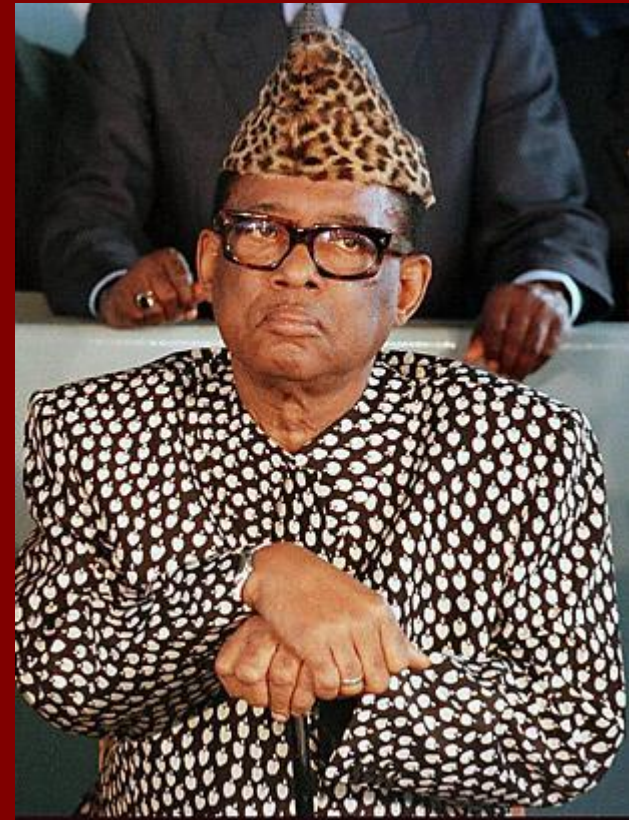
- How do you feel about democracy if you are part of the Alawite (Shia) in Syria?





# Solutions?

- Mobutu Sese Seko
- President of Zaire  
(now “Democratic  
Republic of Congo)  
from 1965-1997



# Where did Mobutu's Money Go?

**The New York Times**  
nytimes.com

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June 4, 1997

## Swiss Find Only \$3.4 Million In Bank Accounts for Mobutu

After a full search, Switzerland's commercial banks say they have found only \$3.4 million belonging to the ousted President of Congo, Mobutu Sese Seko, reputed to be one of the richest men in the world.

The amount turned up is far smaller than the \$8 billion the current Congo Government says Mr. Mobutu had siphoned from his country and deposited in Switzerland during his 32 years in power.

A preliminary inquiry of 12 banks last month turned up nothing. Despite this, the Swiss Government ordered a freeze of Mr. Mobutu's assets, including the luxury mansion he owned here.

After all 406 banks examined their ledgers, just six said they had found any assets belonging to Mr. Mobutu, his family or associates. The bulk of the money located -- about \$3 million -- was found by a single bank, which first reported finding nearly nothing.

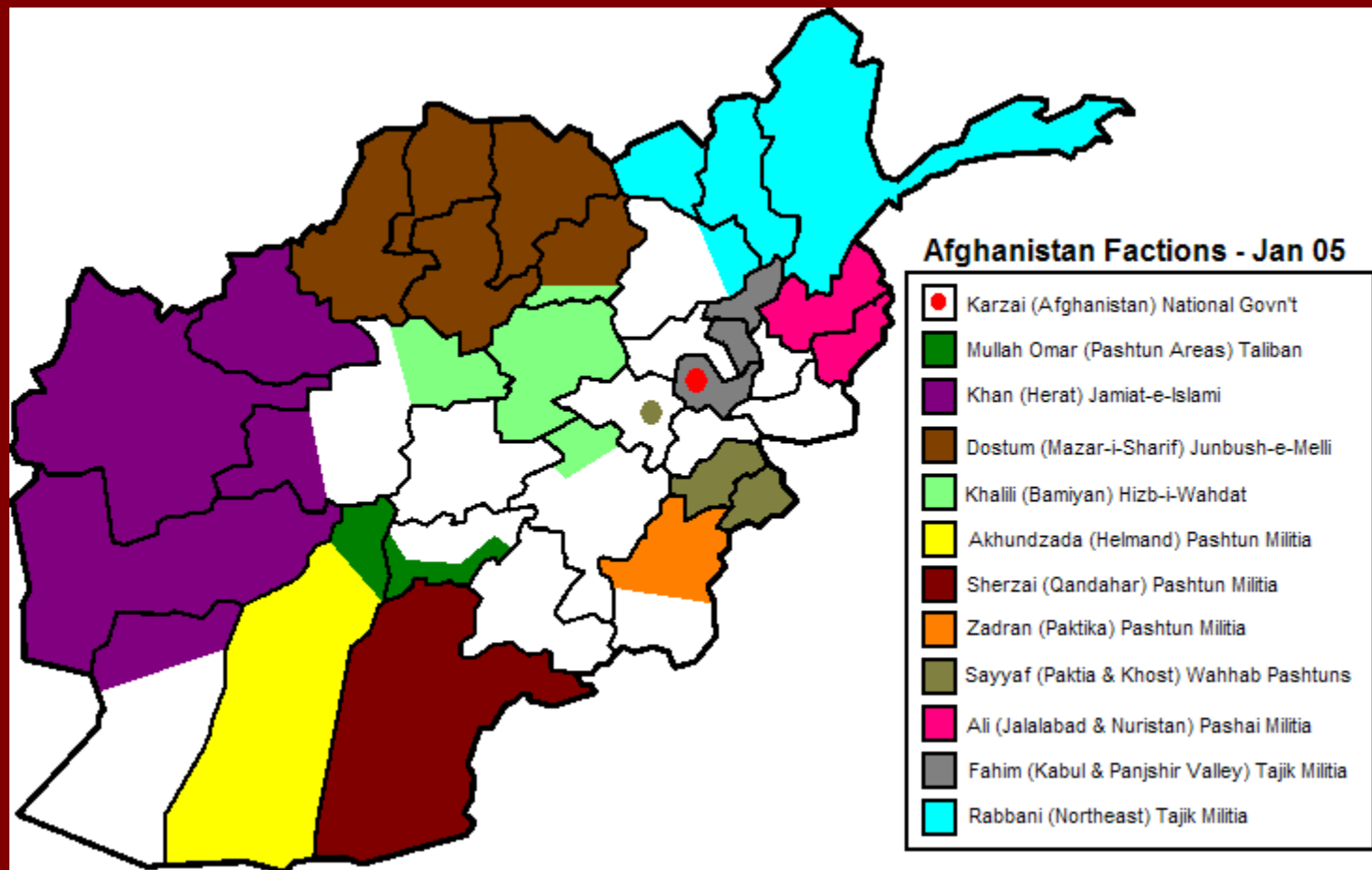
Critics have charged that the inquiry was too vague and that it did not cover assets that Mr. Mobutu may have held in other financial institutions.

# Solutions?

- Mengistu Haile Mariam
- Ethiopian president from 1977-1991



# Keeping order in Afghanistan



Thanks for coming

See you next time