



AGENDA

- ★ **PRE-COLONIAL LIBYA**
- ★ **ITALIAN LIBYA**
- ★ **KINGDOM OF LIBYA**
- ★ **LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC**
- ★ **SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA**
- ★ **ARAB SPRING**
- ★ **LIBYA**



LIBYA IN THE ARAB WORLD

- The Arab world can be divided into the Levant, the Gulf states, and the Maghreb (west)
- Libya is part of the Arab Maghreb region

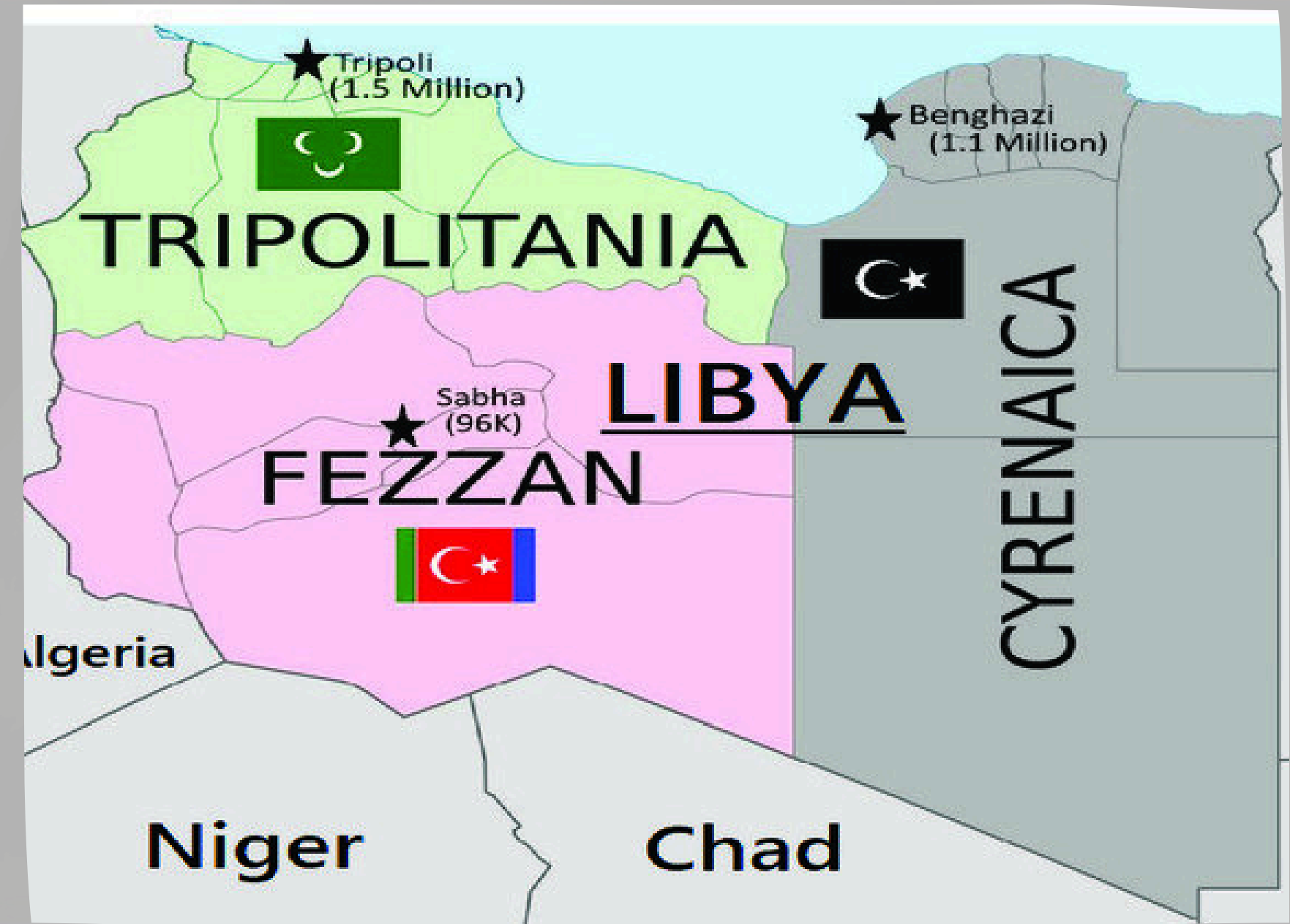


PRE-COLONIAL LIBYA

Modern Libya has a rich history. It has existed

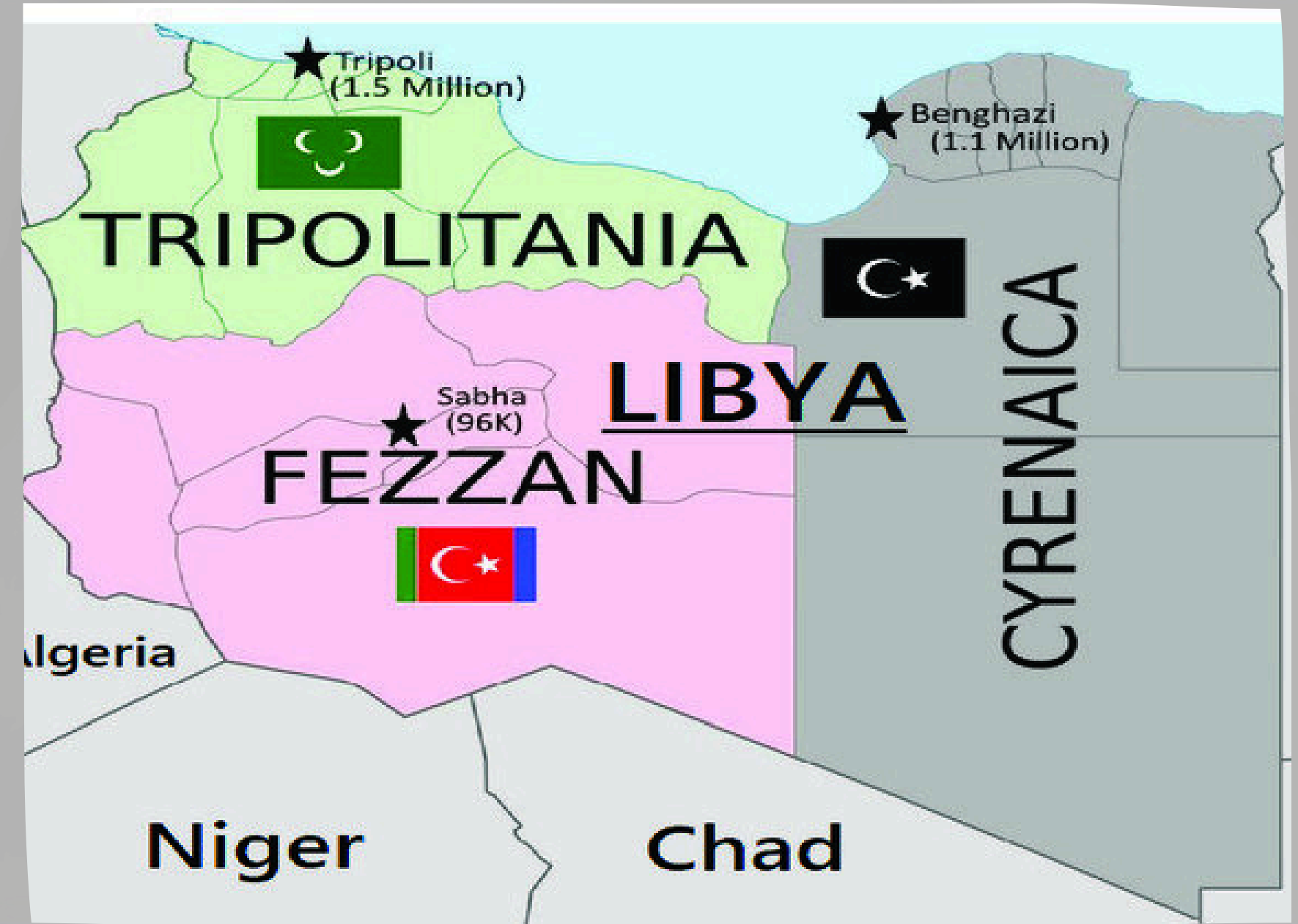
- as a Phoenician colony in the 7th century BC,
- as a Roman province in ~146 BC,
- under Fatimid rule in the 10th century
- under Ottoman rule after 1551

In this period, it never existed as a unified country. Libya consisted of three historical regions – **Tripolitania, Cyrenaica, and Fezzan** – that were largely autonomous under Ottoman rule



COLONIAL LIBYA

- Italy attacked Ottoman 'Libya' during the Italo-Turkish war in 1911
- After Italy took control, Tripolitania was under Italian rule while Fezzan and Cyrenaica continued to resist occupation under the leadership of the **Senussi**, a nomadic Sufi political and religious order spread through the Maghreb.
- In 1916, Muhammad Idris bin Muhammad al-Mahdi as-Senussi formed alliances with Italy, which gave him semi-autonomous power over Cyrenaica



- Idris expanded his power and merged with Tripolitania in 1922. Fearing Benito Mussolini, Idris went into exile in Egypt
- Italy's attempts to crush Libyan resistance were brutal. Involved mass murders and concentration camps
- Italian Libya lasted until 1943
- Tripoli and coastal cities were considered part of the Italian metropolitan, which is reflected in the architecture
- Under Allied forces from 1943–1951
- In 1951, power was transferred to King Idris



KINGDOM OF LIBYA (1951–1969)

- During King Idris's reign, Libya was an oligarchy, and his conservative outlook was unpopular with Libyan youth
- He was considered a British and American puppet, who gave concessions to Britain and the US after **oil was discovered in 1959**
- He completely ignored the wave of **pan-Arabism** created by **Gamal Abdel Nasser** in the hearts of young Arabs
- Spirit to create a revolution by joining the army and overthrowing the pro-Western monarchies swept Iraq, Syria, and, **in 1969, Idris was deposed by Muammar al-Qaddafi**



LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC (1969–1977)

- Muammar al-Qaddafi overthrew the monarchy when he was 27
- rode a wave of anti-imperial, anti-Western, socialist thought into power
- Was initially a popular ruler, but grew brutally dictatorial as students and army officers started calling for a democratic government to replace his military rule
- Crackdown against all critics began in **1973**
- Jailed communists, socialists, and Islamists
- After he saw Arab states like Egypt 'betray' the Arab cause following the Yom Kippur war, he became unpopular in the Arab world
- He was also an unpopular leader in the West for supporting anti-Western groups such as the IRA, the Red Brigades, and Nelson Mandela in South Africa



SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

- Qaddafi engages in war with neighbouring Chad and Egypt in **1969** and **1977**
- His explicit support for what the Western world called terrorism (and he considered armed resistance) resulted in the Reagan administration bombing his house in **1986**
- The Lockerbie plane bombing in **1988** was linked with Libya, which resulted in the UN placing harsh economic and trade sanctions
- In **1996**, approximately **1,270** prisoners were shot by prison guards in **Abu Salim, Tripoli**. The bodies have not been found, and no official list of names or burial sites has been presented.
- Qaddafi's isolatory policies changed after the US invasion of Iraq in **2003**



SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

- Qaddafi rejoins the international community after some reconciliatory gestures
- Starting from 2004, Tony Blair (UK Prime Minister) and other Western leaders visit Libya. Business deals are signed, oil trade resumes with foreign companies
- As his relationship with the West improved, Qaddafi's relationship with other Arab countries deteriorated
- In **2009**, he became Chairman of the African Union, vowed to introduce a single African currency, and create the United States of Africa
- Gave a UN speech in the same year and strongly criticized the Security Council for its unequal division of power. This kept Qaddafi unpopular in the West, despite his support for the War on Terror



In 2011, the Arab Spring began. After the regimes in Egypt and Tunisia were toppled by revolutionaries, protests began in Libya

ARAB SPRING



Lawyer **Fathi Tarbil** planned a protest for the lack of answers to the Abu Salim prison massacre. Two days before the planned arrest in **Benghazi**, Tarbil was arrested by Libyan authorities. His arrest sparked protests that are attributed to the Libyan Arab Spring



LIBYAN REVOLT 2011



15 FEB

Fathi Tarbil is imprisoned, sparking protests all over Libya

20 FEB

Sayf al-Islam appears on state TV, calls the protests a foreign conspiracy. Announces that the regime will fight "to the last bullet"

21 FEB

Reports emerge that military jets and helicopters have attacked protesters. Two fighter pilots and multiple high-level officials defect

27 FEB

Rebels arm themselves from abandoned police and military areas and take control of several cities

5 MARCH

A group of rebel leaders called the Transitional National Council announces itself to be the sole representative of Libya



LIBYAN REVOLT 2011



MARCH-APRIL

Intense fighting continues. NATO forces strike Qaddafi's compound in Tripoli, killing his son and three grandchildren. Pro-Qaddafi forces fire on a ship carrying humanitarian aid to Misurata

MAY-SEPT

Fighting continues. US, EU, and Arab states provide funds and training to the rebel forces to help them overthrow Qaddafi. The ICC issues arrest warrants for Qaddafi, his son Sayf al-Islam, and Abdullah Senussi

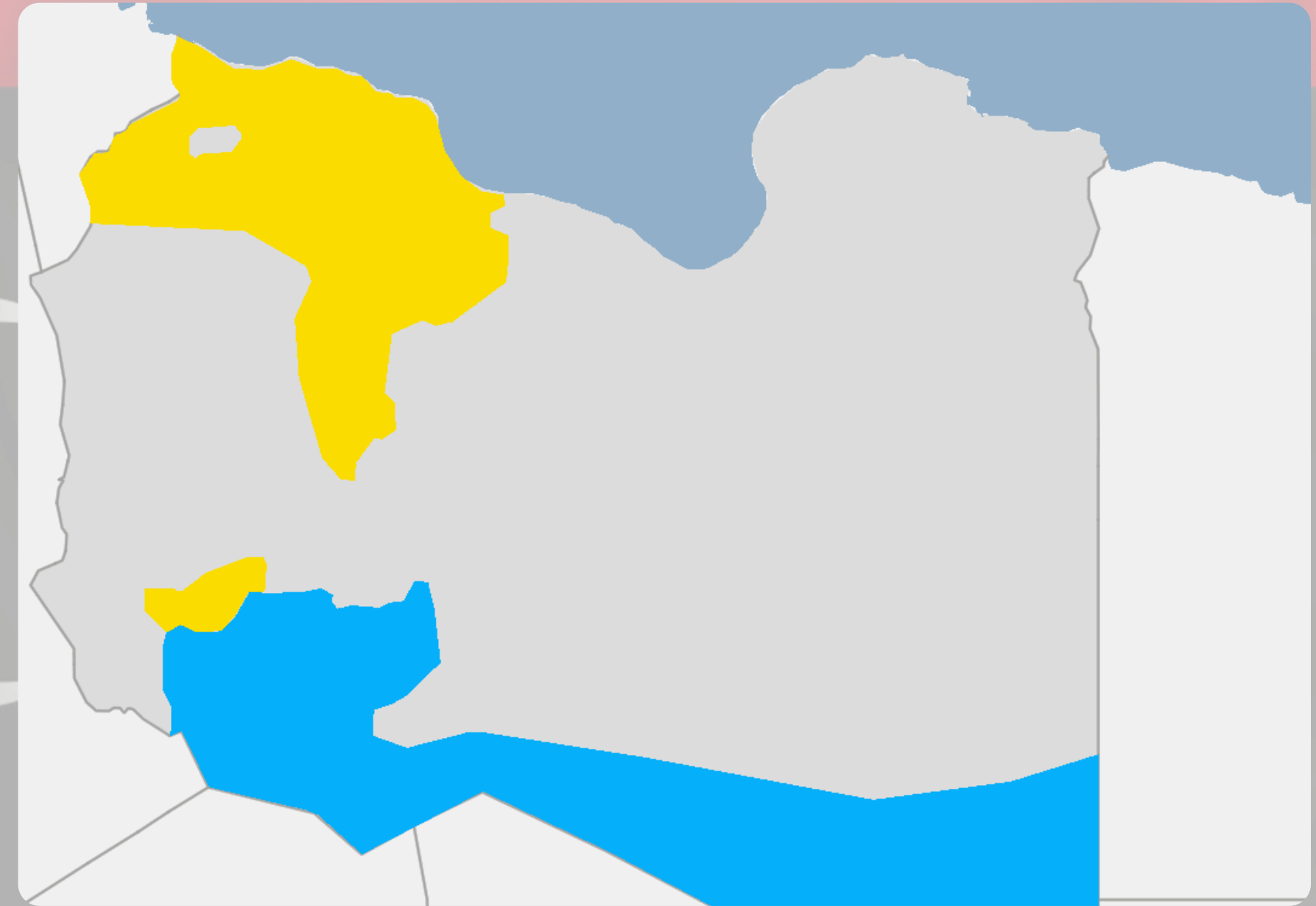
20 OCT

Qaddafi is killed by rebel forces in Sirte. Mustafa Abdul Jalil, chairman of NTC, takes control.




LIBYA (2011-)

"Since 2014, Libya has been split into two, with opposing governments located in the east and west of the country. A United Nations-backed administration known as the Government of National Unity is based in Tripoli in the west and headed by Dbeibah. Its rival, known as the House of Representatives, is based in the east, in Tobruk and headed by Prime Minister Ossama Hammad. He is supported by former warlord-turned-politician Khalifa Haftar"

www.dw.com/en/between-chaos-and-democracy-libya-at-crossroads-again/a-72733882



Libya - areas of military control

 LNA - Tobruk-based government  GNU - Tripoli-based government (UN-backed)  Tribesmen/other militias

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