

POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR RELATED RESEARCH PAPERS

NOTE: The research paper needs to be 3-5 pages double-spaced (should be longer if in size 14 font). Please, no title pages! That 3-5 pages is not counting the separate Works Cited page, which should always go as the last page of the paper, with at least 3 sources including online Encyclopedia Britannica. You should type research papers in Times New Roman font, size 12 or 14! Use MS-WordPad, MS-Word, MS-Works, Corel Word-Perfect, OpenOffice.org, or whatever you like, as long as it is printed out clear and readable for my near-sighted eyes. You should have someone else read through your first draft to check for minor errors. Check with the LRC for how to use Smarthinking proofreading. Whichever draft I receive, I will grade and mark for you to revise.

My Research Paper Suggestions:

1. Analyze the history of Anti-Semitism. *In this usage, “Anti-Semitism” is mainly “Anti-Jewish.” However, historically, the Semitic people included the Jewish and Arabic people as well as some other groups (see maps at the bottom of this web-page for more information about Semitic languages).*
 2. Analyze the Anti-Semitic beliefs of the German Nazis (1930's-1940's), modern Neo-Nazi groups, and/or Ku Klux Klan groups. Or, you could compare/contrast the beliefs of the historical German Nazis with the modern Neo-Nazi, Ku Klux Klan, and/or other groups. Why do Nazis of yesterday and today hate Jewish people so much?
 3. Analyze the Anti-Semitic beliefs of Muslim fundamentalists and the Koran/Quran. Why do some Muslims hate Jewish people so much?
 4. Analyze the Anti-Semitic beliefs of Louis Farrakhan and his religious group, “The Nation of Islam.”
 5. Research the details of the “Kosher” dietary laws followed by strict Judaism. Or, you could compare/contrast the Jewish “Kosher” rules with the Islamic “Halal” rules (there are a lot of similarities, such as “No Pork”).
 6. Describe and analyze Elie Wiesel's changing view of God throughout the book.
 7. Research the German chemical weapon/warfare programs, and what chemicals they used. How did the Germans use poison gas on Americans and other troops during World War I, and then later on prisoners in the German concentration camps during World War II?
 8. Research famous Romanians, such as the family of Vlad Drakul (I, II, and III) from whom Bram Stoker invented the character of “Dracula.” They ruled Wallachia and helped defend early Romania against invasion by Muslim troops of the Ottoman Empire.
 9. Research the U. S. “internment camps” that Japanese-Americans were imprisoned in during World War II.
 10. Compare/contrast the Native American genocide (“Trail of Tears”) of 1838-9 with the Jewish Holocaust during World War II. Compare/contrast President Andrew Jackson with Adolph Hitler.
 11. Compare/contrast the genocide of Armenian Christians in the early part of the 20th century with the Jewish Holocaust during World War II (see <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=6253043n&tag=contentMain;cbsCarousel>).
- Compare/contrast the Ottoman Turkish leader with the German dictator Adolph Hitler.

Study Material Research Paper Suggestions:

1. Research Transylvania and the surrounding area. Include location on a map of prewar Europe.
2. Research the Allies and Axis countries and their leaders during World War II. Summarize the political policies and philosophies of each.
3. Identify Adolph Hitler and his role in the German Third Reich.
4. Trace the persecution of the Jewish people in Europe. Why did the Nazis hate the Jewish people so much that they tried to destroy all of them?
5. Research the Jewish faith. Include the major beliefs and holy days.
6. Explain the beliefs and practices of the Hasidic Jews. Compare these to the beliefs and practices of the Reform Jews and/or other Jewish groups.
7. Trace the origin and development of the Jewish nation, including the modern state of Israel.
8. Briefly explain the teachings of the Talmud, Mishnah, or the Zohar/Kabbalah.
9. Research the Jewish Holocaust (get information from the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., or another source).
10. Describe any one of the concentration camps. Include a map with location.
11. Describe the German Occupation and areas occupied. Include the events that led up to it.
12. Describe the countries that made up pre-war Europe. Include the ethnic make-up of each. Include maps with the locations.
13. Discuss the involvement of the United States in World War II.
14. Summarize events of World War I and explain how they led to World War II.
15. Explain the roles of the SS and the Gestapo.
16. Explain the significance of the Nobel Peace Prize.
17. Report on Elie Wiesel's continuing work for peace and human rights.
18. Explain how and where the surviving Jewish people resettled after the war.

Web-Links for Related Information:

1. Map of modern "Hate Groups" -- <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/hate-map>
2. Categories of "Hate Groups" -- <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-files/ideology>
3. Overview & Explanation of Holocaust -- <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/article.php?lang=en&ModuleId=10005143>
4. Encyclopedia of the Holocaust -- <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/>
5. Explanation of Anti-Semitism -- <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/article.php?lang=en&ModuleId=10005175>
6. Information & Interviews with Survivors -- <http://www.historyspeaks.org.uk/>
7. Map of Jewish Holocaust -- http://www.the-map-as-history.com/demos/tome08/05a-final_solution_holocaust_demo.php
8. Tourist Info for Sighetu Marmatiei -- <http://www.romaniatourism.com/sighetu-marmatiei.html>
9. Kabbalah Today Newspaper-- <http://www.kabtoday.com>

10. Kabbalah Symbolism -- <http://www.helium.com/items/868559-principle-concept-and-symbolism-of-kabbalah>
11. Kabbalah Information -- <http://www.kabbalah.info>
12. Download Zohar Intro -- http://www.kabbalahmedia.info/mekorot/eng_o_ml-sefer-introduction-to-the-book-of-zohar.pdf
13. Download Actual Zohar in English with Commentary -- http://files.kab.co.il/files/eng_t_ml-sefer-zohar.pdf
14. See Amazon.com http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=complete+idiots+guide+to+kabbalah
15. See Amazon.com http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=kabbalah+for+dummies



Elie Wiesel Memorial House in Sighet (Sighetu Marmatiei)

Located at the corner of Dragos Voda and Tudor Vladimirescu streets, not far from the Wijnitzer Klaus synagogue, the house where 1986 Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel was born is now a museum dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust and the Jewish way of life in Sighet before World War II. Born here in 1928, Elie Wiesel is the author of over 40 books, the best known of which is *Night*, a memoir that describes his experiences during the Holocaust and his imprisonment in several concentration camps. Historians credit Wiesel with giving the term “Holocaust” its present meaning. Wiesel wrote candidly of his childhood in Sighet, where his parents were shopkeepers like many other Jewish townspeople. The town was annexed to Hungary in 1940. In 1944, Elie, his family and the rest of the Jewish community were placed in one of the two ghettos in Sighet. The Wiesel family lived in the larger of the two, on Serpent Street. On April 19, 1944, the Hungarian authorities deported the town’s Jewish population to Auschwitz–Birkenau. (From <http://www.romaniatourism.com/sighetu-marmatiei.html>.)



Wijnitzer Klaus Synagogue in Sighet

Before World War II, eight synagogues served the local Jewish community. Today, only one, built in 1885 in an eclectic Moresque style, is still standing and in use. (From <http://www.romaniatourism.com/sighetu-marmatiei.html>.)



These areas were, at one time or another, part of “Greater Romania,” but now some of them are in different countries.



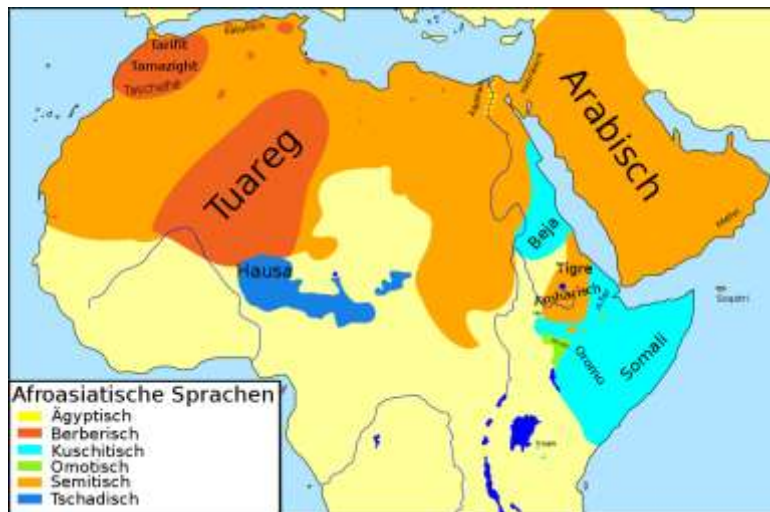
Location of Sighet in Romania



Europe in 1918



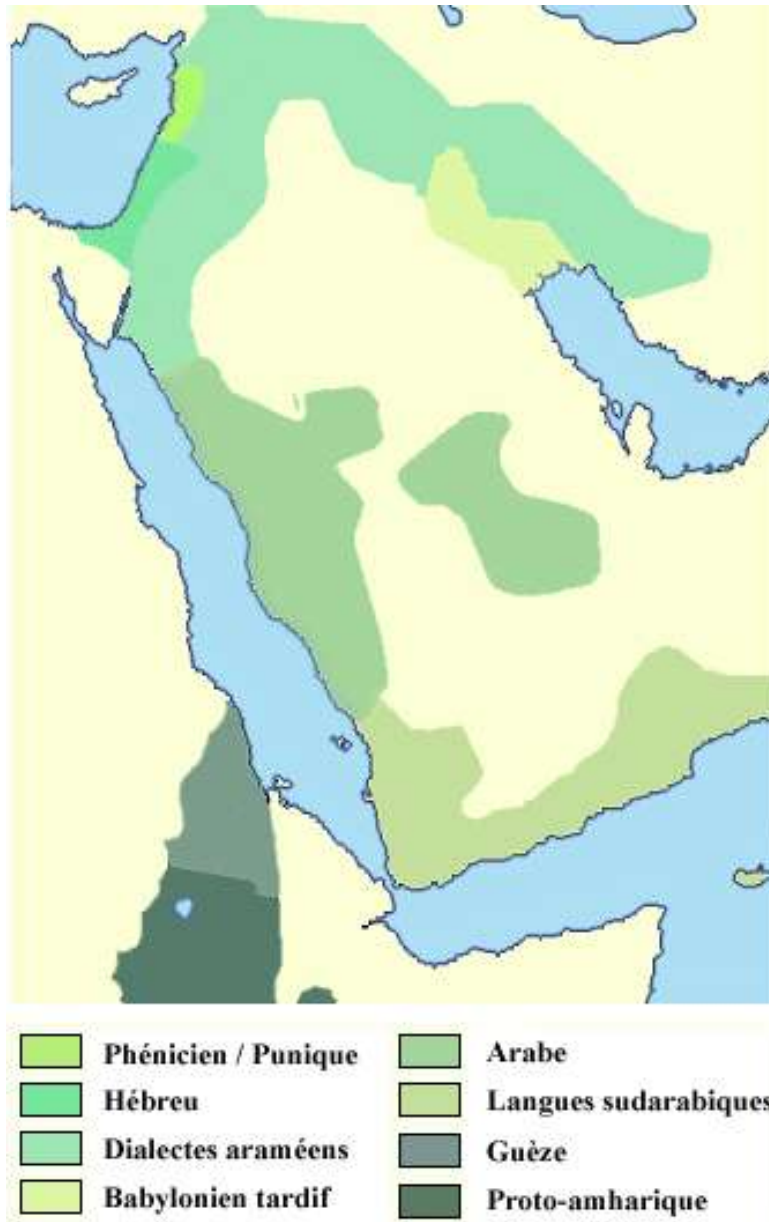
Europe in 2009



Distribution of Afro-Asiatic Languages in Africa and Middle East Today

The Orange Areas Are Semitic Languages

(NOTE: These Labels Are in German, not English)



Distribution of Semitic People and Languages in Africa and Middle East about 1 A.D.
 (NOTE: These Labels Are in French, not English)

List of Semitic Ethnic Groups from Ask.com:

- [Akkadians](#) — migrated into Mesopotamia in the late [4th millennium BC](#) and [amalgamate](#) with non-Semitic Mesopotamian (Sumerian) populations into the [Assyrians](#) and [Babylonians](#) of the Late Bronze Age.
- [Eblaïtes](#) — 23rd century BC
- [Aramaeans](#) or [Chaldea](#) — 16th to 8th century BC/ [Akhlaïmes](#) (Ahlamu) 14th century BC.
- [Ugarites](#), 14th to 12th centuries BC
- [Canaanite language](#) speaking nations of the early Iron Age:
 - [Amorites](#)
 - [Ammonites](#)
 - [Edomites](#)

- [Hebrews/Israelites](#) — founded the nation of [Israel](#) which later split into the Kingdoms of [Israel](#) and [Judah](#). The remnants of these people became the [Jews](#) and [Samaritans](#).
- [Moabites](#)
- [Phoenicians](#) — founded Mediterranean colonies including [Carthage](#)
- [Old South Arabian](#) speaking peoples
 - [Sabaeans](#) of Yemen — 9th to 1st c. BC
- [Ethio-Semitic](#) speaking peoples
 - [Aksumites](#) — 4th c. BC to 7th c. AD
- [Arabs, Old North Arabian](#) speaking [Bedouins](#)
 - [Gindibu's](#) Arabs 9th c. BC
 - [Lihyanites](#) — 6th to 1st c. BC
 - [Thamud](#) people — 2nd to 5th c. AD
 - [Ghassanids](#) — 3rd to 7th c. AD
 - [Nabataeans](#) — adopted Arabic in the 4th century AD

From <http://www.ask.com/wiki/Semitic>

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