

## Middle Eastern culture and development

In §1, you learned that: geography deals with areas. Another word for an area is a region. Regions can be very small or very large.

The Middle East is an example of a large region. It is in the borderland between two continents, Asia and Africa.

The region has a number of characteristics. One characteristic is the dryness: large parts of it are desert and steppe.

In this chapter, you will look at two other characteristics. They are all about the people who live there. You will learn about their culture, way of life, language, religion, music, food, the clothes they wear - and much more.

You will also learn about their development: are their living conditions good or bad? These three characteristics are not the same all over the Middle East: they vary. You're going to describe and explain these differences.

