

Q & A: What is happening in Artsakh/Armenia?

Q: Where is Artsakh?

A: Artsakh (internationally known as Nagorno-Karabakh) is nestled in between Armenia and Azerbaijan.



Q: What is the history of Artsakh?

A: The Armenian population is indigenous to Artsakh, where they have lived since the 5th century B.C. Numerous historical artifacts, such as Armenian monasteries, date back to the 4th century (nkrus.org).

Q: Why does Azerbaijan believe that Artsakh is theirs?

A: In the 1920s, the USSR gave Nagorno-Karabakh to Soviet Azerbaijan to please Turkey (in hopes of having them join the USSR). On December 10th, 1991, a referendum was held for Artsakh's independence from Azerbaijan; it passed by majority vote (de Waal).

Q: What is happening in that region right now?

A: Azerbaijan violated a ceasefire treaty by invading Artsakh and Armenia. The latest attack took place on Armenian soil (at the border of Armenia and Artsakh). Azerbaijan is accused of using mercenaries, including ISIS fighters from Syria. As a result, many civilians have died (The Guardian).