STUDY GUIDE   CHAPTER THIRTEEN—The Struggle for Political Identity:

Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Conflict

Chapter Themes	Introduces the political challenges and struggles that have characterized the post-colonial world, including independence movements, nationalist and separatist activities, the formation and competition of ethnic groups, and the situation of refugee and diaspora populations
Chapter Learning Goals	• Understand how group boundaries, identities, and cultures are continuously made and re-made, and how colonialism contributed to this process • Recognize the meaning and significance of identity politics • Be able to describe the various methods by which colonies became independent, and the consequences of each • Appreciate the problems in building a post-colonial government, given plural societies and international political realities • Know the role that communist theory and politics played in anti-colonial struggles • Understand how the artificial nature of colonial societies posed a problem for the "new states" that inherited those colonial systems • Know the difference between a state and a nation, and the challenged posed by this difference • Be able to discuss the kinds of non-state groups and identities that co-exist within states or extent across state boundaries • Define diaspora and refugee • Understand the origins and social functions of ethnicity and ethnic

	groups • Understand how cultural differences and competitions can escalate into conflict, how those conflicts can displace entire societies or sections of societies, and how anthropology can learn from and be applied to such circumstances
Chapter Highlights	Social groups, boundaries, identities, and cultures have always been in production, negotiation, and transition, but never as much as during and after colonialism In the contemporary world, "identity" and "authenticity" are key issues, and culture is often the basis for claims about both Colonialism ended in different ways in different colonial settings, and the specific path to independence affected the post-colonial politics—in terms of who was in power and the relations between groups within the former colony and between the former colony and the rest of the world Even a peaceful and gradual transition to independence created problems of power sharing, political representation, and the characteristics of political and social institutions Force was often a necessary—and for some partisans, a desirable—means to independence Marxist theory and already-independent communist states often played a

	major role in anti-colonial struggles
	Newly-independent colonies almost universally became sovereign states, with state-level politics and institutions
	The difference between the state as a political system and the nation as a social identity had profound consequences for former colonies and other societies as well
	Most if not all modern states contain multiple nations in complex and often contentious relations
	Nationalism is a force or movement that can unify or disintegrate a state
	Sub-state and trans-state groups can become politically mobilized in various ways, to struggle for their economic, political, and cultural interests, rights, and even very existence
	Many societies today exist in a condition of diaspora, with segments of their group dispersed around the world
	Ethnic groups use parts of their culture to establish identity and boundaries and to compete with other groups within the state for cultural resources
	Cultural differences and competitions can escalate into conflicts and even

	full-blown war, fragmenting states and displacing people
	Separatism is often an explicit goal of cultural struggles
	Refugees are populations who have been forced to leave their home-area for natural or social/political reasons, and to re-construct a way of life as well as an identity and culture
Chapter Key Terms	Civil war, Communal representation, Country, Diaspora, Ethnic group, Ethnicity, Identity politics, Multinational state, Multi-state nation, Nation, Nationalism, Offshoot nation,, Potential nation, Prenational group, Revolution, Self-determination, Separatism, State, State terrorism